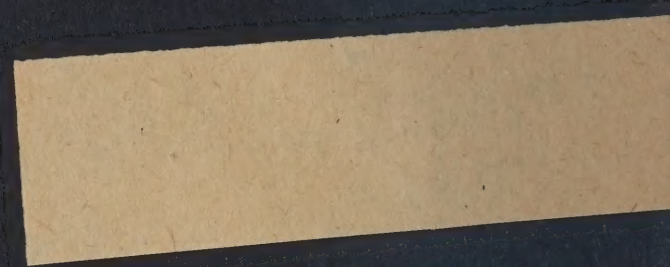


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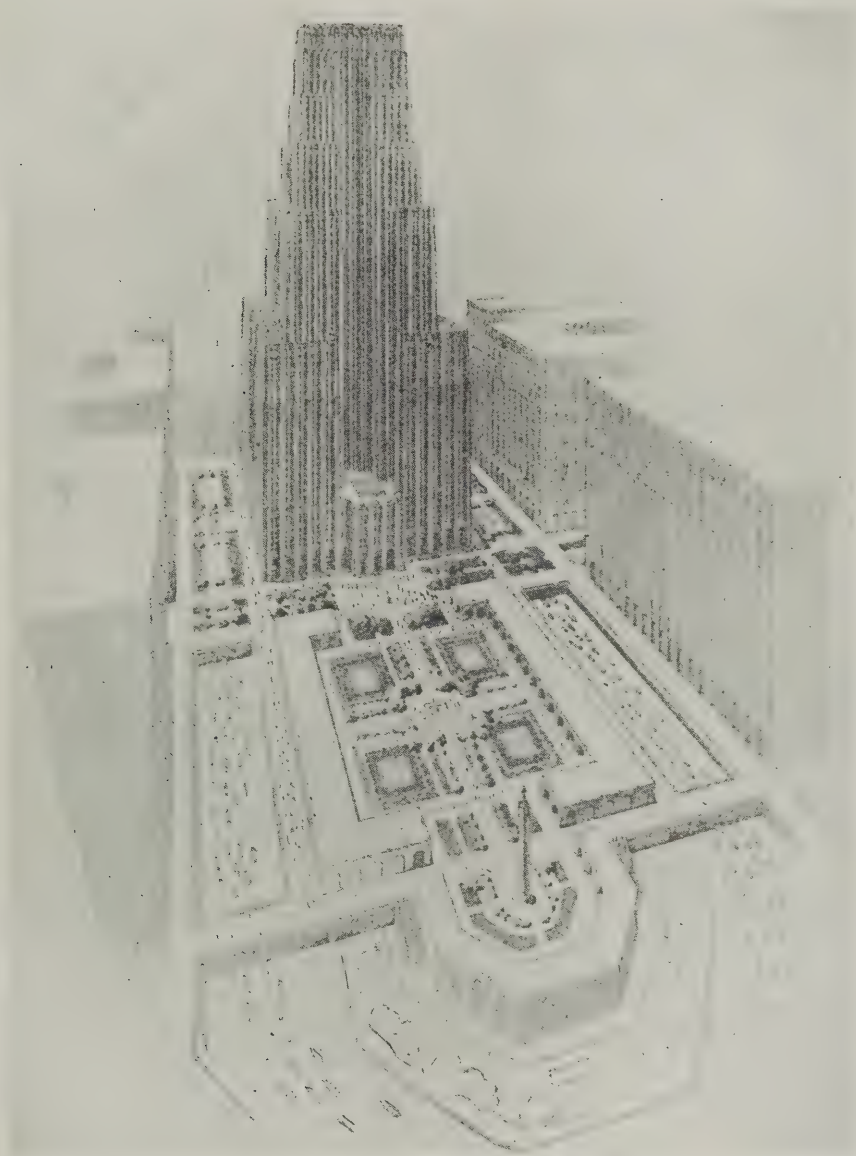
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SCHEME FOR DEVELOPMENT, CHICAGO: THE GRANT HOTEL. ELIEL SAARINEN, Architect.

Brobdingnag.

The "American Architect" illustrates a most interesting project for the development of the Lake Front of Chicago prepared by Mr. Eliel Saarinen, the well-known Finnish architect and town planner, some of whose work we have illustrated. Mr. Saarinen's scheme is valuable because it is the work of a distinguished architect of very wide experience, who has not been employed by any interested party, but has very public-spiritedly given a great amount of time and thought to working out a coherent scheme for dealing with traffic problems in a congested district, and in preparing a scheme for the full utilisation of what may be the central focus of the largest city in the world.

For it may be conceded without discussion that the greater cities of America are likely to outgrow in size similar European centres and that—as Americans themselves admit—the Eastern cities will eventually be outstripped in size and importance by Chicago, which forms the centre of distribution for the industries of the Middle-West, and is equipped by its railway and water facilities for dealing with an immense volume of trade and business. Looking ahead, it is easy to realise that it may, in the course of another century, be the greatest city in the civilised world—unless a change in our ideas convinces us that these immense aggregations of population are not an advantage to mankind and are not really necessary for civilised existence. For,

devise what means of coping with traffic we may and for providing dwellings in cities for people, a limit will probably be reached at which financial and physical reasons will tend to stop expansion, to say nothing of the danger which might arise from new epidemic diseases in great masses of population. But for the time being we may assume that American hopefulness and energy will, as it has in the past, look forward with anticipation to developments which might dwarf those of the Rome of the Cæsars.

Grant Park, lying alongside the lake front between it and Michigan Avenue and enclosed by a loop of the Chicago River, is the area which Mr. Saarinen has selected for his scheme. Grant Park was included in the great City Plan produced by David Burnham, but, as Mr. Saarinen says, little has been done to carry this part of Burnham's plan into execution and new conditions have arisen, amongst which it is interesting to note that the vastly extended use of automobile traffic is the chief. The congestion of that traffic is serious in London, but we believe our problems here are child's play compared with those of the great American cities, where motors are used by a far larger proportion of the population and where congestion has become acutely accentuated. Mr. Saarinen refers to the suggestion that the difficulty should be met by a system of pedestrian ways at a first floor level, with bridged crossings at points, leaving the streets below to vehicular traffic and parking automobiles under the raised pedestrian ways; but, as he points out, such a system would be most difficult to carry out, as it would involve the partial reconstruction of existing buildings and interference with rights of ownership and would, in the end, only partially relieve congestion. In its place it is suggested that a huge parking station for automobiles might be made underneath Grant Park, and connected with this would be a new avenue for motor traffic formed to relieve the congestion of traffic along Michigan Avenue—Chicago's main thoroughfare. Smaller streets would be allocated for traffic moving in one direction only. The plan we give shows a section of this automobile terminal and gives an idea of the extent and scope of the whole arrangement, which Mr. Saarinen calculates would give an adequate return on the enormous cost of the scheme.

Another part of the report deals with the improvement of railway arrangements by the creation of an underground terminal station, south of Grant Park. "By combining the Illinois Central and North-Western systems, the contemplated line westward from the Illinois Central's present station, would, as far as I can see, become unnecessary. By the removal of the station to a more northerly location a large area is released for other purposes, and if the company is given air rights above it so that tall buildings could be erected there, the financial side of the removal would become still more attractive." Mr. Saarinen says generally: "If we study the development of station architecture in large cities, the tendency is clear. We first aim at outward monumentality by erecting above the tracks high glass halls with imposing gable walls. As the glass halls proved themselves unsatisfactory because of the smoke and soot that accumulated there, one strove to get architectonic mass effect by means of lofty entrance and waiting halls. This is all very well as long as the track system is on the ground or elevated. With the advance of electrical power the track systems in our large system show a growing tendency to go below the ground and the station follows suit. It is logical then to seek a type of

station meeting the needs of this tendency. Modern ventilation systems also permit a reduction of height in the halls."

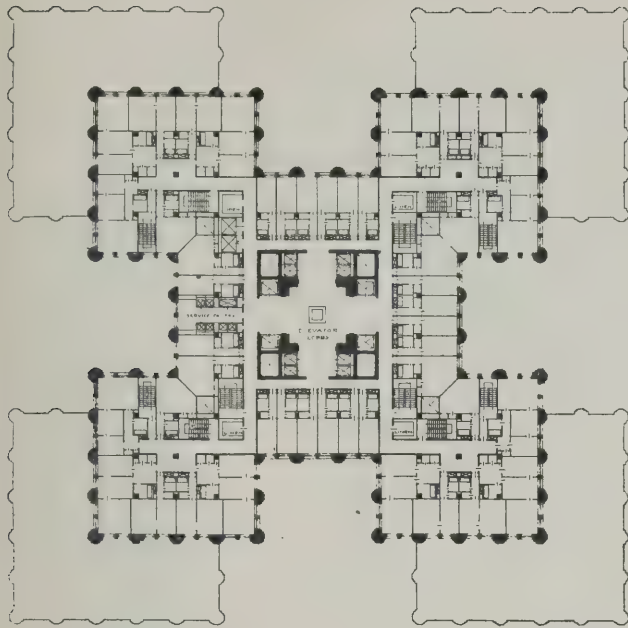
The foregoing is an excellent summary of the development of the Central Station.

The proposed station, which we illustrate, is thus described: "The station proper is above the baggage platforms and one storey below the street; waiting rooms, dining salons, kitchen and ticket booths are on this level. From the large concourse ramps lead to the street level, where entrances and exits for passengers who are automobilists are provided. Here one is in direct contact with the main automobile street and thus has good opportunity for rapid approach to or departure from the station. The hall for checking or delivery of baggage is on the street level, also has easy access to the automobile street. For foot traffic—one storey higher than the street—there are also ramps to the main waiting hall. Above the large waiting room is planned a promenade park, surrounded by arcades. This is the Central Plaza proper."

Mr. Saarinen thinks—and we agree with him—that an urban park needs the setting afforded by surrounding buildings to give it its full effect. He proposes, as one end of the main avenue, a hotel and at the other a tower. Grouped in and at the sides of the park would be space for a number of public buildings. The scale of the scheme is best given by the hotel which we illustrate. This is planned in two units, the lower and more massive of which forms a central hotel, the upper part as easily accessible, being apart from the smoke and noise of the great city. The two lower floors are devoted to boilers, storage, laundry, etc.; the main storey is on a level with the elevated sidewalks for pedestrians; the whole of the third floor is given up to kitchens; the remaining sixteen floors consist of guest rooms. A large number of elevators run directly to the upper hotel and its vestibule floor, from which guests can reach rooms by transferring to another elevator. The floor above contains dining rooms, tea rooms and rest rooms, with four garden terraces and the guest rooms of the upper hotel occupy 34 floors; 4,000 guest rooms in all are provided.

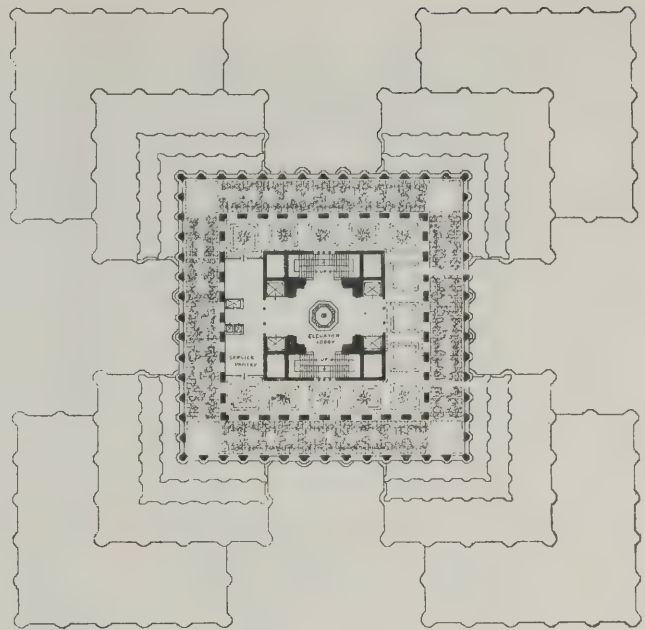
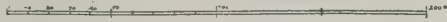
Consideration of the data Mr. Saarinen gives will convince us that the planning proposed introduces a new scale altogether. The buildings shown resemble the size of a large anthill as compared with that of an ant rather than the relation of humanity to the buildings it has hitherto used. Such structures are more comparable to rocks than to anything we are accustomed to. We do not know how far the proposals made are necessary for Chicago as it is to-day, but it may be that Mr. Saarinen's proposals are but a vision of the logical outcome of the growth of cities, and if so we may ask ourselves whether such growth is really desirable for the individual or community. Humanity would be dwarfed by the outcome of its own work and the discomfort of packing millions of people within a relatively confined area. Such cities would tend to become the dwelling places of nerve-ridden neurotics, while without them there remains ample space for those who preferred other conditions.

But we must congratulate Mr. Saarinen on the admirable manner in which he has thought out and dealt with his thesis. His concluding sentences may be termed a skilful appeal to American megalomania, which may have been suggested by the vision of "Wonder Cities" in Jack London's "Iron Heel."



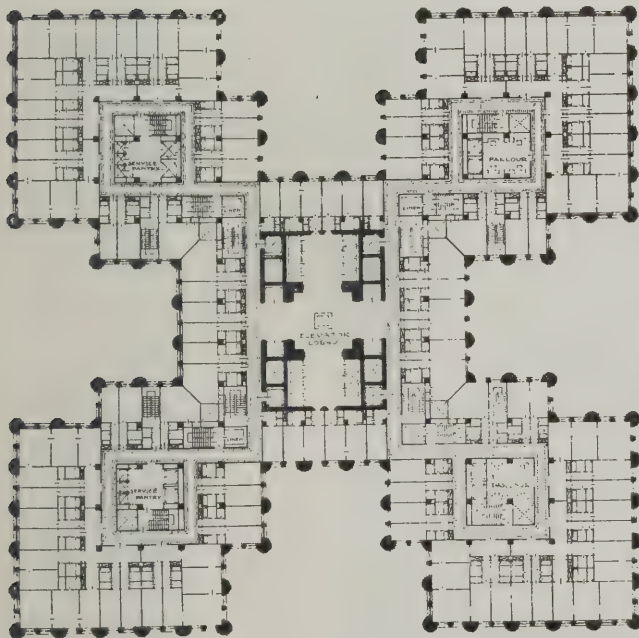
PROJECT FOR THE GRANT HOTEL

TYPICAL FLOOR PLAN OF THE UPPER HOTEL



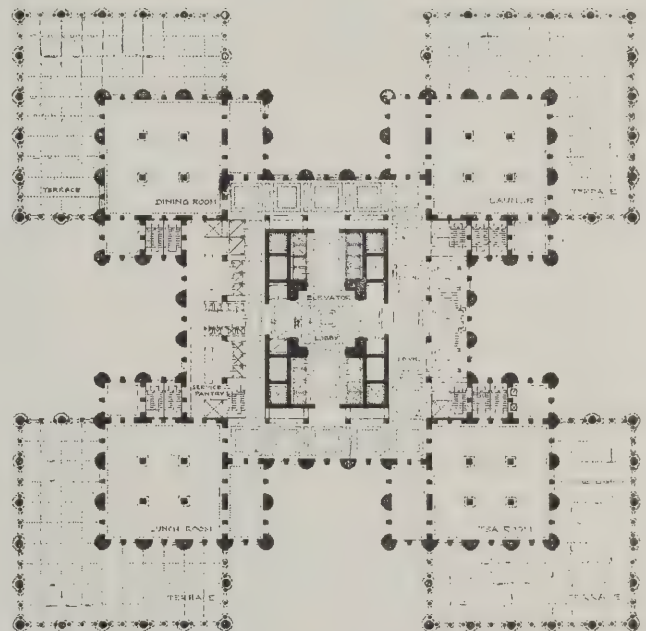
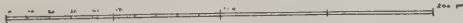
PROJECT FOR THE GRANT HOTEL

WESTERLY SECTION



PROJECT FOR THE GRANT HOTEL

TYPICAL BEDROOM FLOOR PLAN



PROJECT FOR THE GRANT HOTEL

MAIN FLOOR PLAN OF THE UPPER HOTEL



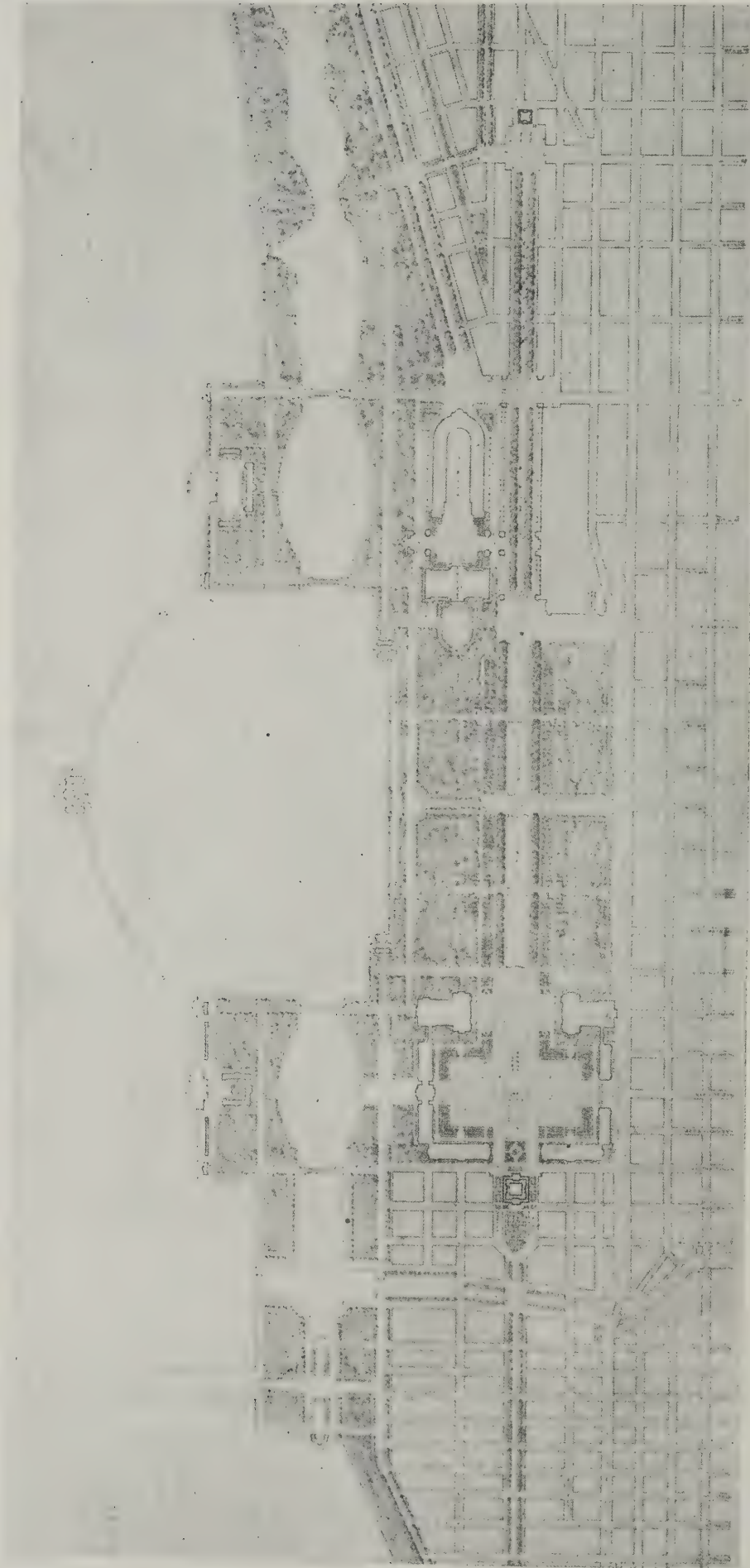
PROJECT FOR LAKE FRONT DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

ELIEL SAARINEN, ARCHITECT

The only manner in which to arrive at any idea of the size of the project is to remember that the proposed hotel in area occupies a site which brings it into comparison with the mass of the Great Pyramid, while it is far higher than that monument. Its Central Hall would occupy a space of more than 10,000 feet, to which must be added corridors, stairs and other means of communication. These figures convey some idea of the sacrifice by means of which alone very lofty buildings become possible. Is it worth while

to create the colossal at such a cost which, as we have pointed out, creates an entirely new scale in architectural expression?

The use of such dimensions would bring with it a disuse of all our accustomed units of architectural design, for giving effect such immense masses of building detail would be valueless and ineffective. Mass would become the only feature of interest in the new architecture of Brobdingnag.

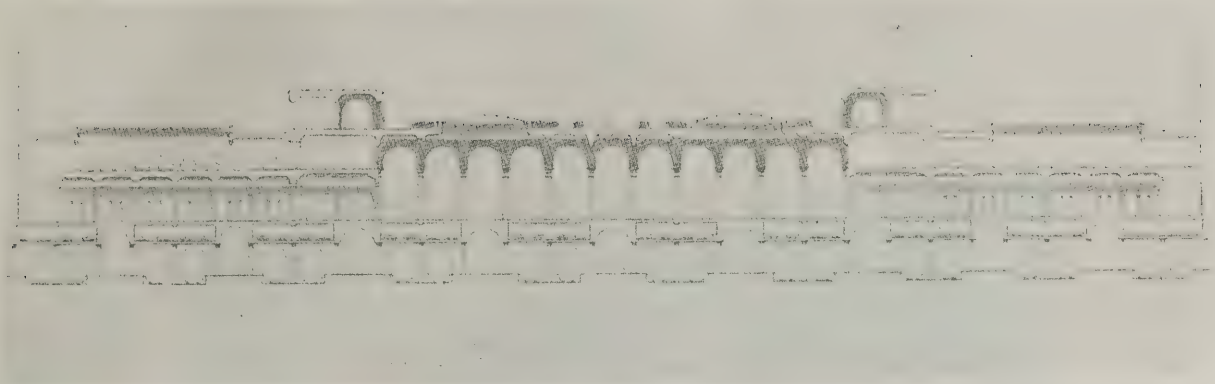


GENERAL PLAN

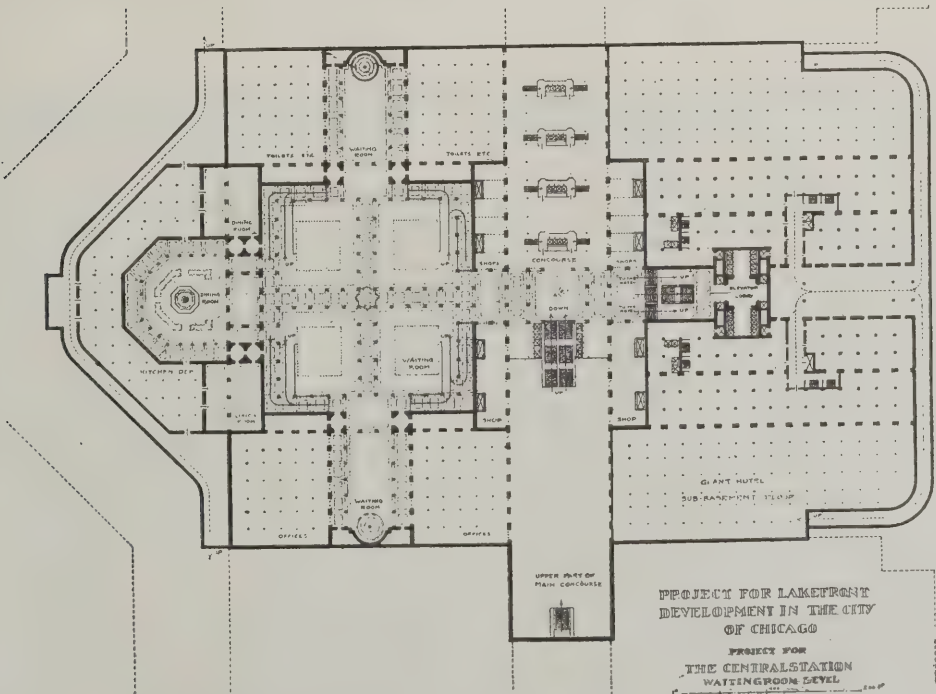
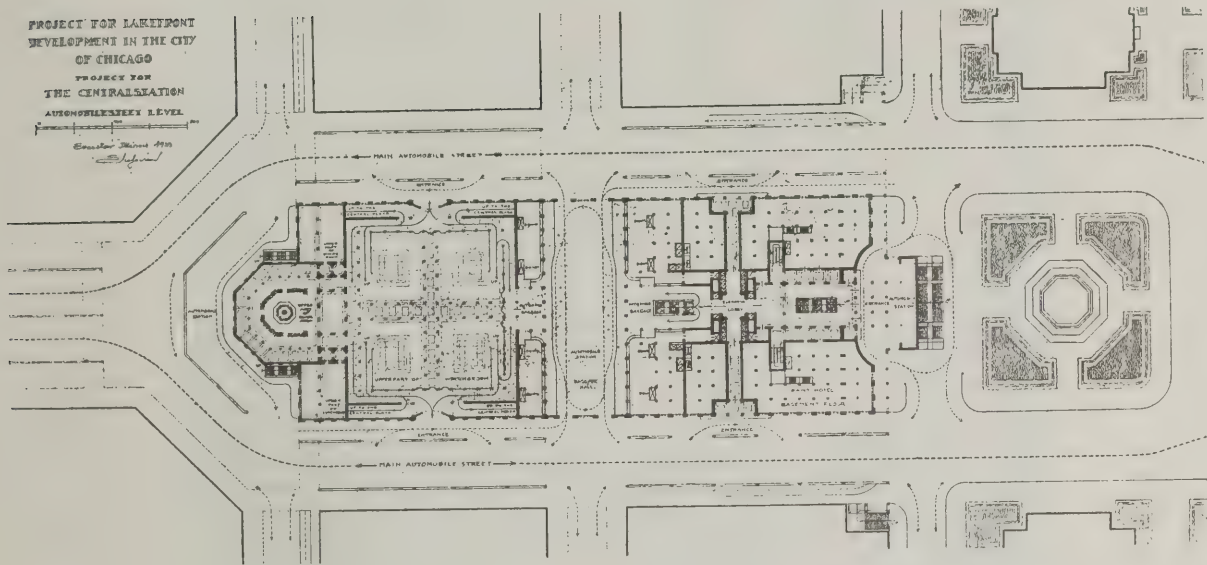
PROJECT FOR LAKE FRONT DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

ELIEL SAARINEN, ARCHITECT

The distance between the hotel on the right and the tower on the left is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The hotel occupies a square of 500 feet each way, while the central avenue between hotel and tower is about 300 feet in width.



SECTION OF CENTRAL STATION AND CENTRAL PLAZA



THE CENTRAL STATION, CHICAGO. ELIEL SAARINEN, Architect,
From "The American Architect."

Our Illustrations.

REGENT THEATRE WINTER GARDEN AND BALL ROOM. ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

A GLIMPSE OF THE COLOSSEUM. Drawn by LOUIS A. HAYES.



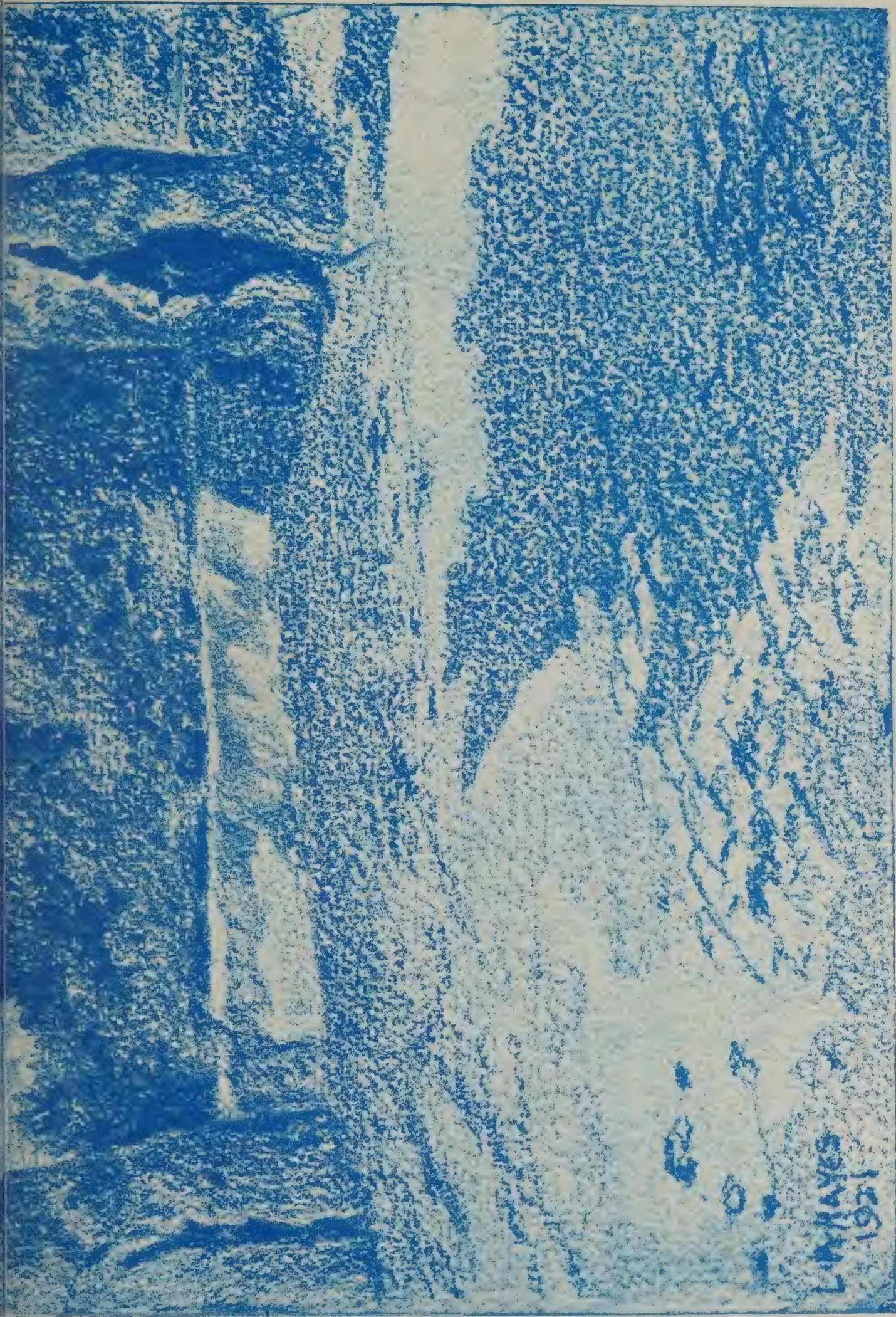
MAIN FRONT, REGENT THEATRE, BRIGHTON; SHOWING ADDITION
(external detail below). ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.



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THE ARCHITECT, JANUARY 4th, 1924.



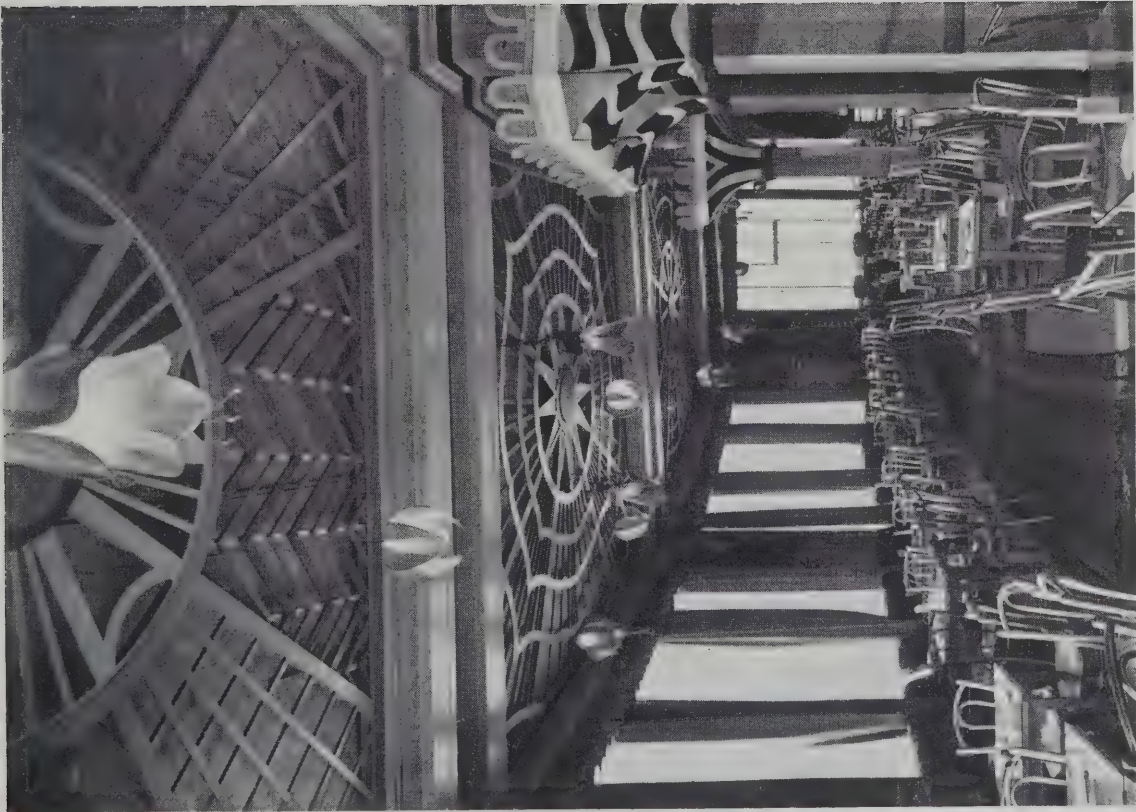
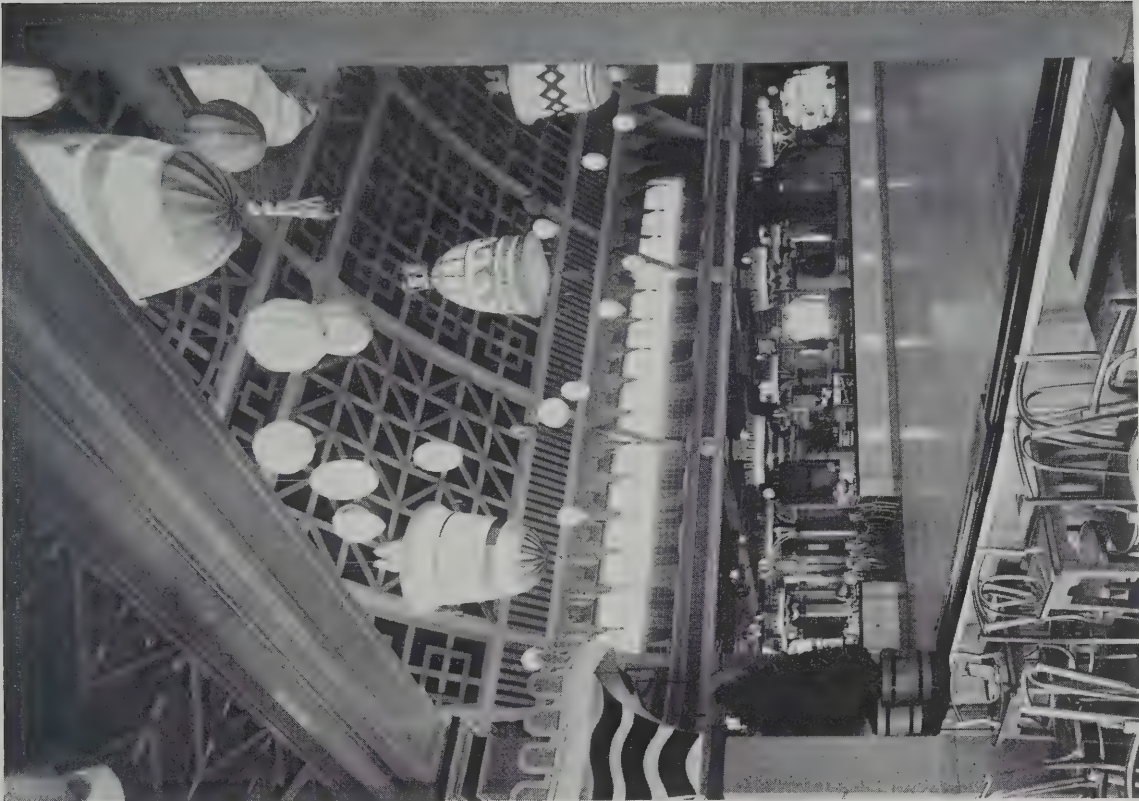


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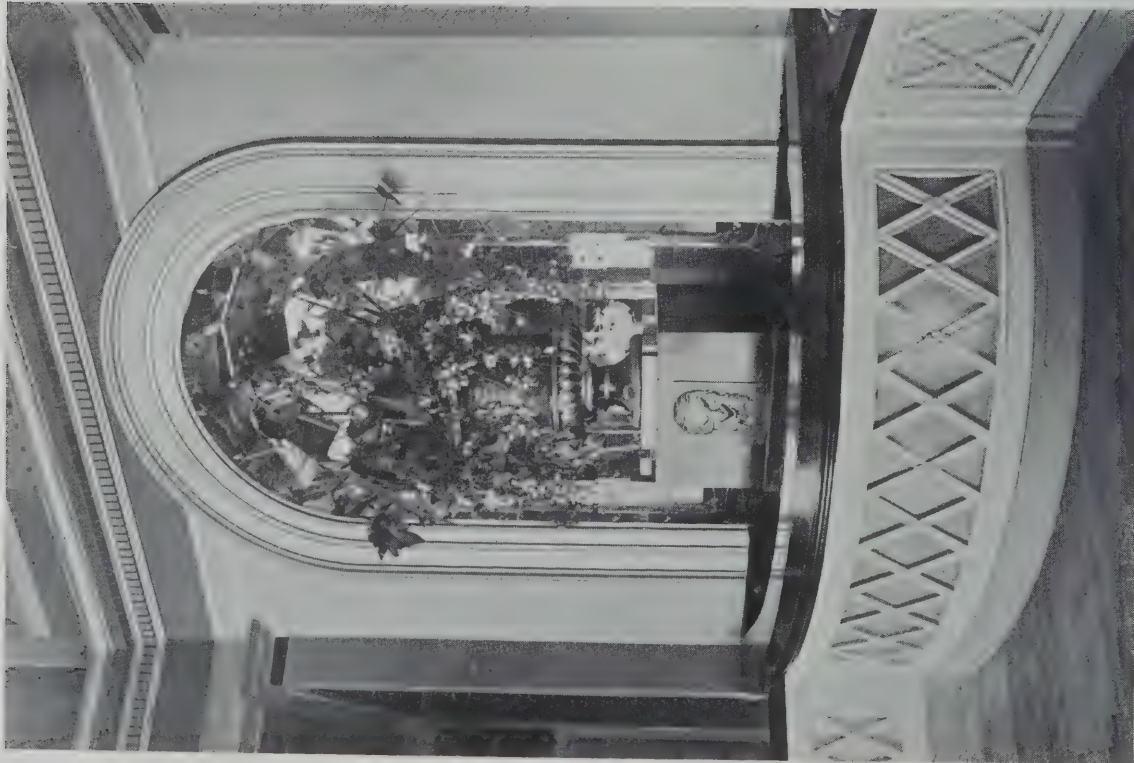
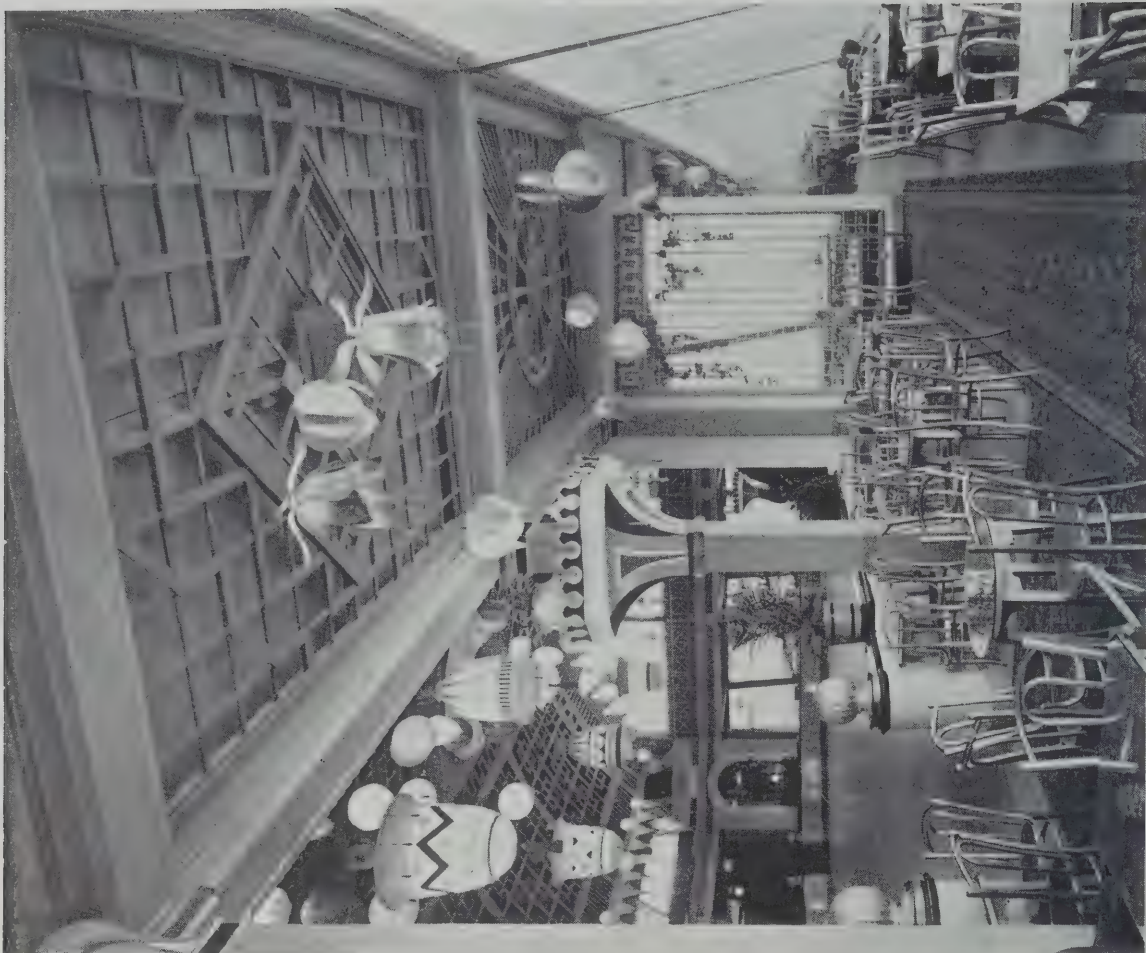
A GLIMPSE OF THE COLOSSEUM.

DRAWN BY LOUIS A. HAYES.

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THE REGENT THEATRE WINTER GARDEN & BALLROOM, BRIGHTON.
ROBERT ATKINSON, ARCHITECT.



THE REGENT THEATRE WINTER GARDEN & BALLROOM, BRIGHTON.
ROBERT ATKINSON, ARCHITECT.



STAIRWAY ENTRANCE TO WINTER GARDEN AND BALL ROOM



VESTIBULE OF WINTER GARDEN AND BALL ROOM, REGENT THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.



DECORATIVE PANEL: MAIN ENTRANCE, REGENT THEATRE, BRIGHTON. ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

The Regent Theatre, Brighton.

The Regent Theatre, Brighton, has now been considerably improved and the proprietors possess a really first-class entertainment house. A winter garden and ballroom have been built on the roof of the theatre. A lift carries the public from the main vestibule to the vestibule of the winter garden. Mr. Robert Atkinson, the architect, has changed the entire decorative note from that prevailing in other parts of the building; some small indication of this change is realised in the entrance stairway leading from the Italian restaurant landing on the first floor to the ballroom above. The title Winter Garden has a real meaning in the decorations; whilst the whole scheme is very modern, harmony reigns in the riot of colour which the designer has used. Our illustrations will convey some idea of the general effect, but, as in all these places of amusement, the colour scheme is, as it should be, predominant; as we are unable to give it, it is difficult to convey true impressions. Except for the frieze surrounding the stage, the grotesque element has been entirely omitted, flowers and plants and lamps producing a very happy effect. On a clear day a fine view, possibly the best in Brighton, can be obtained from the lounge windows which surround the actual dancing floor. We have been informed of the cost of the entire winter garden and ballroom scheme, and can only express our admiration for the results achieved at such a very moderate outlay.

Messrs. McLaughlin & Harvey, Ltd., 24 Highbury Grove, N.5, were the general contractors. They thus carried out the whole work included in the other portions of the building.

Messrs. Brook Bros. & Dean supplied the curtains, etc., which contribute their portion to the generally pleasing effect.

Messrs. Sam Brown & Co. executed all the lamp shades, from designs prepared by the architect, in a special fireproof fabric which has passed all the tests stipulated by the London County Council. Messrs. Sam Brown & Co. are specialists in lampshade production, and are producing shades true to style from vase forms in the British Museum. They are carrying out the lighting decorations at Mile End Empire, at the Blue Hall Picture House, Islington, Palais de Danse, Edinburgh, and the Canterbury Theatre, Westminster Bridge Road, S.W.

Messrs. Medways Safety Lift Co. installed and supplied the lifts which carry the public from the main entrance vestibule to the Ballroom and Winter Garden.

Messrs. William Morris & Co., Ltd., Rochester Row, Westminster, supplied the steel casements and balconies.

Messrs. Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., were responsible for the steel construction of the Ballroom and Winter Garden.

Messrs. G. Jackson & Sons, Ltd., 49 Rathbone Place, executed the "Stuc" work, which we show in our illustration of the stairway leading to the Winter Garden. The colour is very restful and refined.

Messrs. W. & R. Leggott, Ltd., 90 and 91 High Holborn, London, W.C., supplied and fixed the lantern light gearing, and overcame in a very satisfactory manner some difficulties that presented themselves whilst the building was in progress of construction.

The floor of the Ballroom was fitted by Messrs. Francis Morton, Junior & Co., 22 Laurence Pountney Lane, Cannon Street, London, E.C.4, who used their patent "Valtor" system of steel springs and girders. The installation consists of 19 rows

of light steel "Valtor" girders lying across the room under the floor. Each line is divided into 11 short lengths bolted on to patent spring fitments. In each spring fitment there are two helical springs carried upon cast iron base and supporting two cast iron casings bolted on to the "Valtor" girders. The timber floor joists are cut into short lengths and rest loosely upon the top flanges of light steel girders. To the tops of the joists are nailed deal battens 1 in. by 2½ in. spaced about 12 in. apart, and to these battens are secured the flooring boards, which are of maple in straight narrow lengths tongued, grooved and secretly nailed to the battens. The whole floor is therefore carried upon the steel springs and there is no dead point anywhere. There are in all nearly 400 springs under the floor.

The electrical wiring and controls were carried out by Messrs. W. J. Furze & Co., Ltd., 2 Traffic Street, Nottingham.

Calendars, 1924.

We have received a very charming New Year's card from Mr. Harold Oakley, the architectural perspective artist. The subject, illustrated in three colours, is taken from Sir Christopher Wren's contribution to Hampton Court. Mr. Oakley always obtains a very pictorial effect, and this sketch certainly ranks amongst his best work.

Messrs. G. N. Haden & Son, Ltd., Lincoln House, Kingsway, have selected a fine view of Liverpool Cathedral. They may possibly have carried out the heating plant, but we are attracted by their exhibition of good taste. We know they execute very good work, and are glad to number them also amongst those who have an appreciation for things artistic.

The Art Pavements and Decorations, Ltd., last year sent us a monthly calendar; on each occasion a coloured illustration of some work they had carried out made the calendar attractive. We thought the idea of a monthly appeal to their friends and clients quite a good one.

Messrs. F. C. Edey & Co., Ltd., electrical engineers and contractors, 25 Warwick Lane, London, E.C.4, send us a very neat and pleasing calendar—one which, whilst reminding us of the firm, also has considerable artistic value and merit.

Mr. Sydney W. Newbery, technical and commercial photographer, 37 Cowley Road, Brixton, S.W.9, sends us a calendar upon which he has mounted a very charming view of an old bridge. The photographs of the Regent Theatre Winter Garden and Ballroom, Brighton, which we illustrate in this issue were all taken by him.

A proposal that the Edinburgh Cenotaph should be erected in Princes Street Gardens, between the Sir Walter Scott Monument and the Mound, was, on Wednesday, remitted by the Lord Provost's Committee of the Town Council to a sub-committee.

A start has been made with the work connected with the erection of Cowdray Hall and Art Museum, Aberdeen. The War Memorial Hall, to cost £60,000, will be first completed, £20,000 having been given by Lord and Lady Cowdray.

The County Council propose to reconstruct the bridge over the canal at Mexborough Pastures at an estimated cost of £5,000. The proposed work will only be started if a grant of 65 per cent. of the cost is contributed by the Ministry of Transport. It is thought that the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation Company should contribute £200 towards the scheme.

Architecture by Advertisement.

In the year of grace nineteen hundred and twenty-four, according to Press notices, there will be held for the first time in England the Convention of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World. Most appropriately, this Convention, which consists of American citizens, of members from all parts of the Continent, and a few representatives of advertising interests in the British Empire, will be held at the British Empire Exhibition.

What is an Advertising Club? Ah! that we are to learn next year. Something pretty good by the look of the £20,000 entertainment fund which has already been subscribed in order "to direct the attention of the public in a way they've never appreciated." One's mouth fairly waters at the thought of it. Take, for instance, the one and only Women's Advertising Club in London; dinners are held every week at which there is a big speaker on advertising—bigger than ever after the dinner—who will tell you that we have still much to learn from enterprising America in the gentle art of selling goods by advertisement. Even one's eyes begin to water at it all.

"We are shy of advertising in England," we are told; "shyness is our national characteristic. America is aggressive."

After partial recovery from the shock to the system which any Briton, however shy and meek, must receive from this statement, he will begin to perceive that this point is most important in that an aggressive policy must be avoided if our own system of shy advertising is to be



LE DIEU PINARD. MAX BLONDAT, Sculptor.

Too Shy to Advertise?**Britain to be Taught the Value of Publicity.**

In July, 1924, will be held for the first time in England the Convention of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley.

Mr. W. S. Crawford, who was amongst 100 representatives of advertising, publishing and merchandising firms in England who visited the Convention held last year at Atlantic City, thinks America is far ahead of us in salesmanship. "We are shy of advertising in England," he said. "Shyness is our national characteristic. America is aggressive."

Fifteen hundred American delegates from the great bankers, insurance firms, big newspaper interests, and a member of the Cabinet; 700 delegates from the Continent; and representatives from all the British Possessions and the Far East will gather to this Convention to awaken England to the importance of selling goods by advertisement.

Mr. C. H. Vernon, chairman of the Executive Council, spoke with great enthusiasm of the prospect. "We are going on well," he said. "£20,000 has already been subscribed towards our entertainment fund, and we hope to direct the attention of the public in a way they've never appreciated."

Efforts will be made to stimulate women's interest in advertising. America has 19 women's advertising clubs. The hon. secretary of the one Women's Advertising Club in London said dinners were held every week, "at which we have a big speaker on advertising, but we still have much to learn from enterprising America."

Sir Herbert Morgan, chairman of the National Reception Committee, is now in America stimulating interest in the Convention over there.



CARVED OAK PANEL FROM THE NEW CHOIR SCREEN:
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, CLAPHAM.
By H. P. BURKE DOWNING, Architect.

maintained. It may be safe even to prophesy that it will prove the paring of the ways, the British Empire taking the road of self-effacement and the rest that of aggression.

Aggressive advertisements for England and the Empire? Perish the thought! Consider the irrevocable damage that would be done to our existing system. Think of Piccadilly Circus, "the centre of the world," at night in all its ethereal beauty! Meditate upon the great and fearful respect that is there shown towards that marvel, electricity! To introduce a note of aggression into this would ruin it for ever. What would become of the baby sucking the patent food? He might—and it is shocking to contemplate—he might get up and start on that bottle of port, and where should we be then?

No! we do not want aggression. What if the goods do steadily deteriorate, for is not London fast becoming one vast and glorious advertisement hoarding under our own sweet, shy system? Development must be on these lines alone.

A system with such admirable characteristics must inevitably lead to the production of fine architecture, suitable to it, symbolic! Shy and ever more shy must be the spirit which informs it, until all the old-fashioned muddle that now cumbers the ground shall have been knocked down and rebuilt into something which really will sell any old stuff, hot or cold.

What opportunities there will be then for architects, provided always that aggression can be kept at bay. What a fortune awaits the man who can invent a window (it must be cheap to manufacture, whatever the selling price) which can be expanded or contracted at the will of the owner, who will thus be able to adjust with economic accuracy the available advertising area of his walls, balancing the varying receipts for really nice, shy advertisements against the cost of artificial light for his clerks.

Therefore, before throwing over our shyness and taking to this transatlantic aggression would it not be wise to seek out genius in our own land in order to preserve and further the evolution of shy advertisement? Ask the gentleman who sold us that raspberry jam which fermented and who said he could not understand it at all, for "was it not made with the *best* glucose?" Nothing aggressive about him, yet think of his selling powers!

Take bread: why advertise more than a plain statement such as "Our Busto bread is pure! It contains no milling offals. Those are all given to pigs." Perfectly unaggressive, and yet how effective.

Then beer: what a fine subject for shy advertisement. No need for aggression here, for what persuasion in a pavement advertisement consisting of a mosaic inlay representing a narrow pathway, first copper colour and straight, next silver and with a slightly curving line, then gold in an ever widening zig-zag, and finishing in a large purple patch writ large with "Drink more beer! So-and-so's is the limit."

And this brings us to the vexed question as to whether architects should advertise aggressively or not. Should they content themselves with, for instance, the attachment of their name to the picture of some building advertising a patent material which is used therein, or should they come out of their shy retirement? Surely not the latter, for what a terrible thing it would be, for instance, if Bond Street were to be rebuilt with really fine modern advertisement hoardings and new patent windows, the surveyors and architects concerned were to advertise themselves aggressively in the newspapers. Such publicity could not be anything but distasteful to the profession of architecture. It is certain, too, that such advertisement would sooner or later become involved generally with those of the patent materials of which the hoardings would be constructed. With aggression would creep in suspicion, and architects would then be at a discount.

Yes, we have no aggressive advertisements in England, and do not want them. The shy Briton, if offered the choice of two alternatives, namely, development of the gentle art of selling goods by means of aggressive advertisements, or the confining of legitimate advertisements to

their proper place, would choose the latter without hesitation, even though it were to involve the total disappearance of the lovely electric flash signs and all other beautiful efforts of the advertiser from our streets.

"ADZE."



WAR MEMORIAL. CHARLES J. HARTWELL, A.R.A., Sculptor.

Messrs. Taylor & Simester, architects of a very wide reputation, are interested in a school at Chadderton.

Messrs. S. H. Langley & Son, architects, of Leicester, are the designers of the school to be erected at Donisthorpe.

A new Roman Catholic school to accommodate 230 children is to be erected at Wood Meadow, Southlands Avenue, Wolstanton.

The plans for the alterations that are to be made at Wolverly Vicarage have been approved by the Kidderminster Rural District Council.

The Surveyor to the Urban District Council of Cheriton has been requested to prepare the necessary plans for a public library, the cost of which will not exceed £8,000.

Building operations at Blackpool are in full swing with respect to housing. The Corporation passed at a recent meeting 244 plans for houses and bungalows in different parts of the town.

Four thousand pounds is being spent on the extension works at Alton cottage hospital. Two new wards and a matron's room are being added and the entire expenses are being borne by Mr. F. B. Summers, of Froyle.

No expense is apparently being spared in filling the City Restaurant, Oxford, with all the latest appliances known to a modern equipment of a restaurant. Messrs. T. H. Kingerlee & Son, of Oxford, are the builders, and the shop front will be filled by Messrs. Fredk. Sage & Co., Gray's Inn Road, W.C.

Correspondence.

The Office of Works: Art in Architecture, and the Public.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—In attacking the Office of Works, as I propose to do, I hope I shall be believed when I state that I have no personal axe to grind, and that I do not know a single official of that Department.

The Office of Works was constituted simply to keep in repair the Royal Palaces and other public buildings, the premises and staff being commensurate to the performance of those duties. Sir J. Baird, the First Commissioner of Works, on July 20, 1923, informed Sir H. Brittain, in answer to his inquiry, that the professional, administrative and clerical staff of the Department then numbered 1,786, and cost in salary and wages approximately £580,000 per annum, whilst in 1913 the number was 655, and the cost approximately £148,000—a rise of 1,131 in number, and £432,000 per annum in money.

■ The point, however, which I wish to impress upon the younger members of the profession is that the legitimate work of the independent architect is being gradually taken from them, and brought within the spreading tentacles of a "Department," with the consequent and distinct loss of independent thought and skill. It cannot be reasonably expected that men whose lives are spent within the confines of a "Department" can possess that technical ability and administrative capacity which the architect in full and independent practice acquires.

I propose to mention four important public matters which will illustrate my contentions, and bring home to the taxpayer how he suffers, and how Art and Architecture suffer, by permitting uncontrolled expenditure of public money by a body unfitted for the work.

1. The monastic ruins in England and in Scotland.
2. The Crystal Palace.
3. The Lake in St. James's Park.
4. The roof of Westminster Hall.

It may be urged that my criticisms are uncalled for, because if I state that which is correct, the present President of the Royal Academy—who is an architect—and the Royal Institute of British Architects—the representative of the general body—would long ago have intervened on behalf of Art and Architecture and of the public welfare, and would have closely clipped the wings of those Government officials concerned; but, so far as I know, they have not moved a finger in that direction.

The "Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913," placed under the "Guardianship of the Commissioner of Works" 25 abbeys and priories, in addition to 7 castles, and, in answer to a question in the House of Commons on February 21, 1923, the First Commissioner stated that "approximately" £20,000 had been expended on Tintern Abbey alone, apart from "Departmental charges," which, unfortunately, he was unable to state.

From careful inspection of many of the ruined abbeys and abbey churches above referred to, I unhesitatingly say that the Office of Works should no longer be permitted to work its official mind on such beautiful structures; that work requires highly technical skill, and *sentiment*, and these cannot be found in a Government Department. There was considerable discussion on this subject in September, 1923, and Mr. A. A. Thompson, F.R.I.B.A., made the timely suggestion that a "Vigilance Committee" should be organised to "keep a close watch and report from time to time what is being done," and he added that "it is in this the only way that there is now any likelihood of the Office of Works reconsidering their methods." Perhaps the President of the Royal Academy, and the Royal Institute of British Architects, will bear in mind Mr. Thompson's suggestion.

The Crystal Palace was, after the War, converted into a War Museum by the then First Commissioner of Works, Sir Alfred Mond. Recklessly were the beautiful models of sculpture and of architecture treated; the charming Courts were destroyed, the sculpture was taken down from its pedestals and heaped up in any corner available, and the Palace of Beauty was converted into a Chamber of Horrors, at one knows not what expense.

After, in its wisdom, selecting the Lake in St. James's Park for the erection of War Huts, the "Department" had to remove the huts and restore the lake. The bed of the lake has now been completed in reinforced concrete, in detail similar to that recently constructed for *heavy vehicular traffic* in Holborn and Westminster. Only the pressure of rowing boats is likely to be put upon this bed, and the cost to the public is about £50,000.

The timbers of the roof of Westminster Hall had become much decayed by the usual depredations of worms. The "Department," instead of having the defective timbers made good in oak or chestnut by skilled carpenters, introduced *steel girders*, hidden

from the view below, and this marvellous feat has resounded throughout England; newspaper representatives were induced to inspect the work; technical papers were read; lectures were given; the "Department" received the cordial congratulations of distinguished architects, and the cost to the nation has only been about £150,000.—Yours, etc.,

Church Row, Hampstead.

WM. WOODWARD.

December 26, 1923.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I read in "Architecture" that the Prince's Street façade of the Bank of England has been saved by a fortunate accident, but am inclined to believe that other forces saved the façade besides those mentioned by the Society of Architects' journal.

Mr. Herbert Baker's scheme for the reconstruction and rebuilding of the Bank of England has always received your approval, and you have recognised Mr. Baker's exceptional talents. It gives one satisfaction to reflect that we have an architectural paper which adheres to its opinions and expresses them. Policy is all very well, but papers which claim to speak with authority and never say anything definite on controversial subjects become irritating. If you have a please-all policy you cannot serve any cause, and you contribute nothing to the progress of the profession. Often I have been in direct opposition to the views you have expressed, but have been grateful for them because they have opened up before me the lines upon which others might reasonably be thinking. Some men may object to THE ARCHITECT because of the frankness with which it deals with many subjects, but I believe a majority of those whose opinion is worth considering like its methods. I see most of the weekly journals, and like THE ARCHITECT because I can read something every week that will open up a train of thought which may be productive of good results. You have recently included a far greater number of illustrations, which have added to the interest and value of the journal. I am sure that many men grow weary of reading of the doings of the two bodies which officially represent the profession and which are reported *ad infinitum* in many quarters.

A LADY ARCHITECT.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—The death of my father, Mr. J. Douglass Mathews, in April of last year, after sixty-seven years' devoted service in his profession, has left me the sole surviving partner in the firm.

Under these circumstances I find that I am unable, single-handed, to cope with the work entailed by a practice which has increased considerably during the last few years.

I am, therefore, taking into partnership with me Messrs. Geoffrey and Basil Ridley, both of whom, as well as the family, I have known personally for many years past.

Mr. Geoffrey Ridley has been a partner with me in my country practice at East Grinstead, Sussex, since 1912, and Mr. Basil Ridley has been associated with my London practice since the War.

As both these gentlemen are Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and have sixteen years' experience in their profession, I shall be able, with all confidence, to leave in their hands matters to which, through pressure of work, I cannot give my personal attention.

The firm, which will be known in future as J. Douglass Mathews, Son and Ridley, have taken new and larger offices at 3, Paul's Bakehouse Court, Godliman Street, St. Paul's Churchyard, where the practice will be carried on for the future.

It is my hope and belief that with this increased staff and more suitable offices the firm, which was established by my grandfather about 100 years ago, will continue to prosper and to hold the confidence of its clients.—Yours, etc.,

H. EDMUND MATHEWS.

It is seldom we receive a Diary so full of useful information as that published by the Industrial League and Council, of 82, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, for 2s. 6d. Their 1924 edition has a useful Industrial Directory, and also gives many items of industrial and commercial interest. For instance, should you desire to know how many industrial disputes there have been since 1900, here they are all in tabular form. It surprises us to learn that since the end of 1918, up to July, 1923, there has been a total of 4,656 disputes, involving 7,188,000 workpeople, with a loss of 164,356,000 working days. What a loss to the community! There is also some very interesting and useful information about Whitley Councils, Trade Boards, Membership of Trade Unions, etc.



HAMPSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL: SOUTH END GREEN HOUSING SCHEME. C. WONTNER SMITH, Architect.

Housing.

South and West of England.

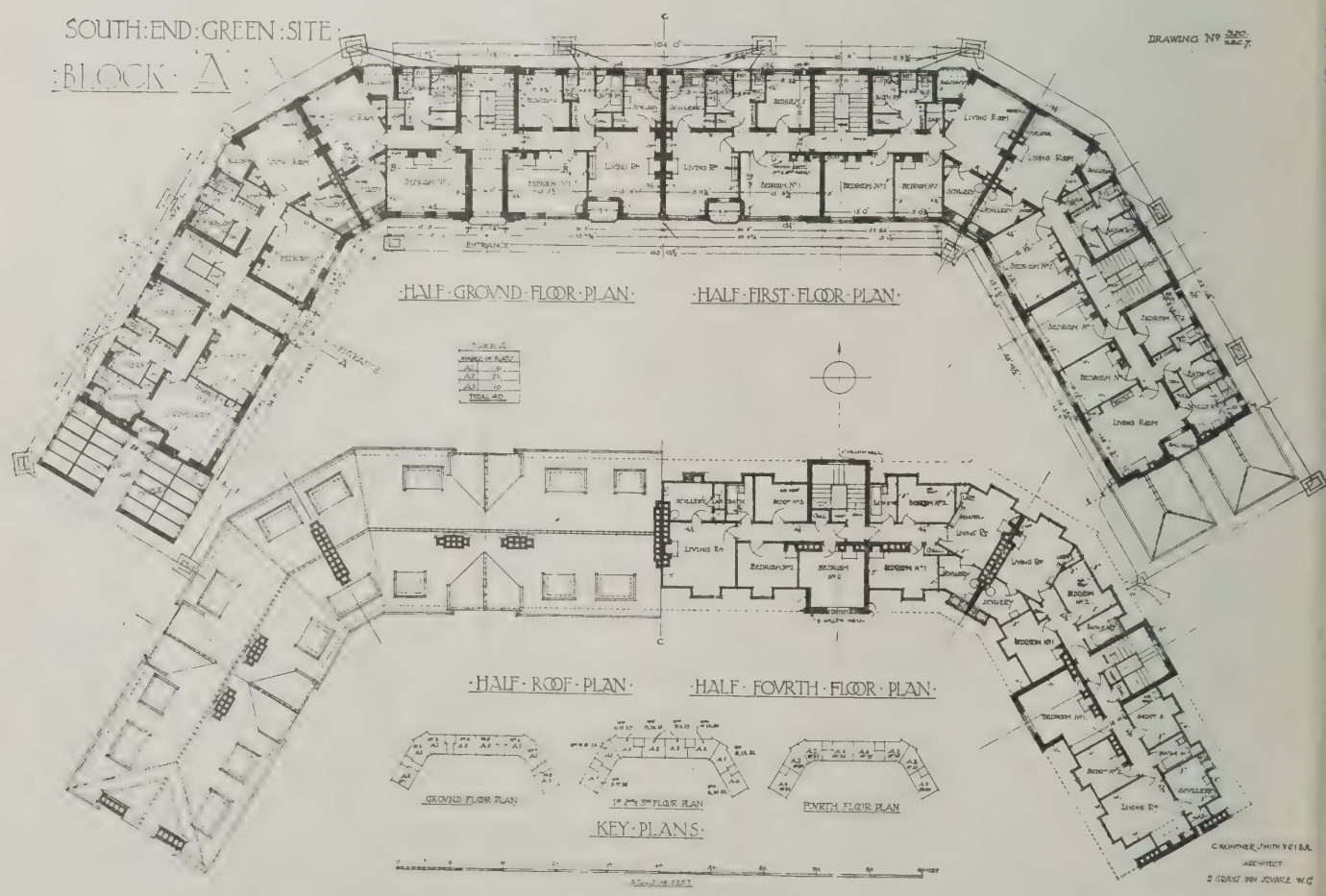
"Gordon House," Charles Road, Hastings, is to be converted into flats according to the plans of Messrs. Callow & Callow, architects. Mr. H. Burleigh, architect, has designed the plans for a bungalow in the Bexhill Road for Mr. G. Honeyman.

The East Ham Town Council have been recommended to pass the plans for nine houses in Monmouth Road, three houses in Flanders Road, four in the Tilbury Road, and a further three houses, Nos. 72 74 and 76 Monmouth Road.

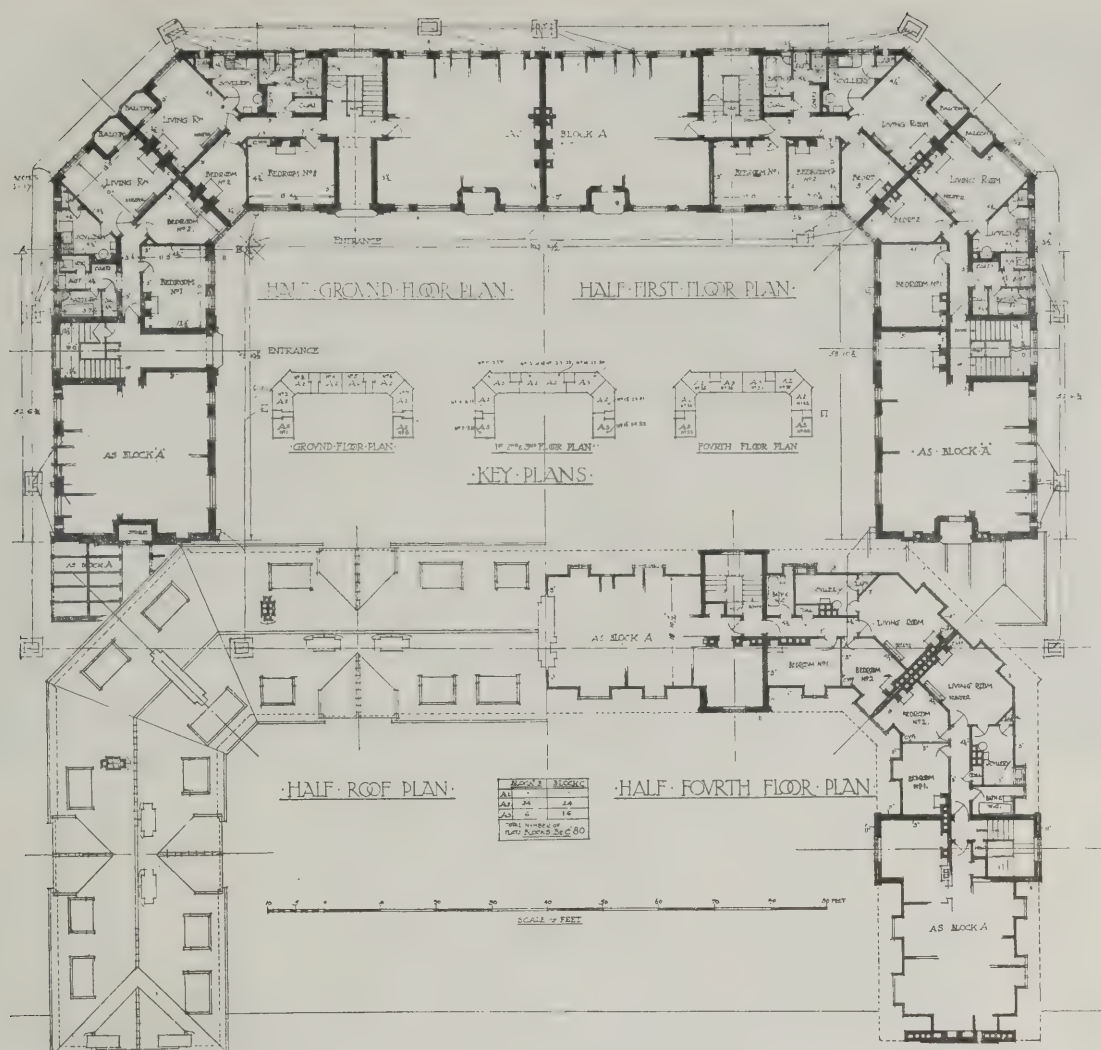
The Gillingham Town Council approved of the following plans for houses and bungalows at their last meeting: a house in

Rock Avenue, a bungalow in First Avenue, another in Twydale Lane, four houses of the same type in Chicago Avenue, six houses in Barnsole Road, nine in Portland Road, twenty-six in Oak Road, fourteen in Maple Road, seven in Albany Road, and a further six in Barnsole Road.

Eighty-five houses are to be erected under the Housing Act of 1923 for persons who desire to occupy them. Forty-seven others are being built by builders for selling purpose, and a further seventy are to be built for letting. On all these the payment of the Government subsidy has been promised by the Bournemouth County Borough Council.



HAMPSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL: SOUTH END GREEN HOUSING SCHEME. C. WONTNER SMITH, Architect.



HAMPSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL: SOUTH END GREEN HOUSING SCHEME. C. WONTNER SMITH, Architect.

The foundation stone of a new vicarage at Newquay was laid by Lord St. Levan recently; the cost of the house is to be £4,000.

The plans for 52 houses have been approved by the authorities of Ringwood; they all have qualified for the subsidy.

The Greenford Corporation have appointed a committee to consider plans which have been submitted in connection with a proposed housing scheme with which the Council desire to proceed.

There appeared recently in a well-known London evening journal a letter signed by "Architect" in which it was pointed out that the Housing Act of 1923 did not only apply to workmen's cottages, but to any house under 950 superficial feet. It has often occurred to us as odd that few middle-class houses are built under the Act. A grant of £6 per year for 20 years and a possibility of borrowing 90 per cent. of the cost of the building should surely hold considerable attractions for many young people.

An interesting situation has arisen at Hammersmith in connection with the Borough Council's housing scheme which may well be the precursor of similar developments throughout the country. Some months ago the Council granted a 99 years' lease of certain land on its Wormholt Estate for the erection by a syndicate of not more than 52 houses. A number of these houses, which are slightly too large to rank for the Government subsidy, are now approaching completion. The lessees have decided to sell the leasehold interest to individual purchasers, and several Hammersmith residents have now applied to the Council for the advance on mortgage of a proportion of the purchase money, to enable them to buy their own houses. The Council has decided to advance in each case, subject to approval by the L.C.C., a sum not exceeding 70 per cent. of the value of the premises, repayable in a maximum period of twenty years, at interest not less than 5 per cent. In one case already settled by the Council the actual advance will be £550. At the last meeting of the Council it was objected that this method of procedure was tantamount to financing an outside syndicate from public funds, and that the Council should itself have built and sold the houses. The objection, after a lively discussion, was overruled.

Messrs. Colborne and Gates have informed the Paignton Urban District Council that they proposed to erect at least 150 houses at Tweenway and that they would be forwarding applications for grants in respect to these houses. Further, they stated that within the next two years a client proposed to build 300 houses, all eligible for the Housing Act of 1923 grant. Septic tanks are to be used for the drainage of these houses, though the actual scheme for drainage has been deferred by the Council for further consideration.

The layout plan for 50 houses to occupy six and-a-half acres of land at Romanby has been passed by the Northallerton Rural District Council.

The Lewisham Borough Council have examined and passed the following housing plans: five in Baring Road, ten in Bromley Road. The plans for 23 garages were also approved.

The building activity at Hove is developing considerably, many are preparing extensive alterations to existing premises. The plans for 30 new houses were passed at the last meeting of the Corporation.

200 new houses are to be erected in Plymouth by the Town Council at a cost of £85,300.

The Willesden authorities have passed the plans for six houses in Doyle Gardens and Herbert Gardens, and for a further eight houses in Herbert Gardens by Mr. A. Welford, architect.

Seven houses are to be built in St. Michael's Road, eighteen houses in Sneyd Road, Cricklewood. The necessary plans have been recommended to the Willesden Urban District Council for approval.

The Bromley Town Council have every week a steady flow of plans to pass, even during the holiday season they were called upon to sanction the plans for three houses and one bungalow in different parts of the district.

The plans for several houses at Barnet were passed by the Urban District Council for East Barnet. They include a house and garage in Woodville Road, New Barnet, and a bungalow in the same road for Mr. Cope. Messrs. W. C. Leak and Sons are building six houses in Rosslyn Avenue, two in Cedar Avenue, and two in Church Hill Road.



PROPOSED BUNGALOWS, SOUTH AFRICA. W. STANLEY GRICE, Architect.

Midlands.

Seventy-five houses eligible for subsidy assistance are to be built by private enterprise at Hazel Grove. Four further houses are to be built in Highfield Road, a bungalow in Thorn Road and another in Ethel Road, a house in Carr Wood, twenty houses in Broadoak Road, and nine houses and a new road off Ack Lane. Messrs. Kingerlee and Sons, Oxford, are erecting 23 houses in Otland Road, Oxford.

Three houses are to be erected in Storeys' Way, two in Hills Road, six in Hartington Grove, three in Barton Road, Cambridge, the Town Council having approved of the plans laid before them.

Mr. Evan O. C. Howells has obtained a contract to erect several hundred concrete houses in Birmingham.

The Bourne Rural District Council passed the plans for 22 houses, four of which will be built at Deeping St. James, four at Corby, six at Billingborough, four at Morton, and four at Baston.

The Urban District Council of Carlton propose to apply for permission to borrow £10,000 with which to meet the calls for subsidy payments for houses to be erected in the district.

The Hinckley Rural District Council passed the following plans for houses: Two in Lychgate Lane, one in Hinckley Road, another in Lullerworth Road, and another which included shop premises in the last-named road.

There is a prospect of considerable building operations being undertaken. Members of the North Staffordshire Builders' Federation are prepared to put up nearly 600 houses, and the Stafford Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., would augment the total by another 252 houses in New Inn Lane, Back Lane and Primrose Hill, Hanford. All these houses are to be erected under the provisions of the Housing Act of 1923, and advantage is to be taken of the possibility of securing loans from the local authorities.

The Cheadle Urban District Council had built 72 houses on the eastern portion.

Scotland.

The plans for 40 houses at Ormond Avenue, Muirend, for Messrs. John Dickie and Sons, builders, have been passed by the Upper District Committee of the Renfrewshire County Council; the same authority also sanctioned the erection of 30 cottages at Netherlee for Messrs. A. Mitchell and Sons, Ltd., builders. We take it that these firms are speculating contractors and that they are receiving the same support by the local authorities as if they were private individuals. We have read several times of members of local Council voicing objection to supporting by State grants and local loans builders who are enterprising. We see absolutely no reason why any such feeling should exist. A private individual is at liberty to sell the house he has had erected through State and local aid. Why should any objection be raised to builders and contractors taking up their legitimate calling?

The Upper District Committee of the Renfrewshire County Council have passed the plans for several bungalows to be erected at Giffnock. The plans include a double bungalow in Busby Road, two double bungalows in Percy Drive, and a bungalow on a new road constructed on the Davieland Estate.

The new housing scheme at Carlisle has taken a forward step, the necessary roads and sewers are to be constructed, and the gas company has been approached with a view to their laying the gas mains at the same time as other works are in progress.

Twelve houses are to be erected at Dalmellington. The Housing and Public Health Committee agreed at their last meeting to accept the lowest tenders received, subject to the approval of the Scottish Board of Health.

Cupar District Committee recently agreed in connection with their housing scheme to give a grant to private builders of £80 for a three-roomed house and £100 for a four-roomed house, and to lend money up to 90 per cent. of the cost of the building.

Wales.

One block of 4 four-apartment houses and one block of 2 four-apartment houses are to be built at Chapel Street, Aberfeldy. Messrs. Bell & Cameron, architects, have prepared the plans, and invitations to tender for all trades have been issued.

The Town Clerk reported at a recent meeting of the Llanelli Corporation Housing Committee the receipt of a letter from the Great Western Company's organiser informing the Corporation of the intention of the local railwaymen to take advantage of the company's housing schemes. The company were prepared to take over and lay out land for building, bearing the cost of roads, drainage, etc., themselves, and to rent the land afterwards to the society at a ground rent that would allow them about 4 per cent. upon capital outlay. The company would also advance to the society 90 per cent. of the money required for erecting the houses at 4 per cent., repayable in twenty years.

The Town Clerk pointed out that the Corporation had already decided to offer £100 subsidy per house, and they could not very well give the railwaymen preferential treatment.

It was decided to offer the local society a site on the Llanerch for about 50 houses.

The Director-General of Housing, Sir Charles Ruthen, Architect, met the Swansea Housing Committee and intimated to the committee that the scheme for the erection of concrete houses would be regarded as approved in its entirety subject to the Corporation endeavouring to reduce the cost of the parlour type dwelling by at least £20. He felt that the difference of £100 in the cost between the non-parlour type and the parlour type could not be justified.

The Ministry of Health will shortly have before them further housing schemes for approval, those at Dunvant, where it is proposed to build 20 houses, and the schemes for 43 houses at



Preserving timber with SOLIGNUM at Bush House, Kingsway

All the wooden floor joists, battens, bearers, etc.,
used in the new Bush Building, Kingsway, are being
dipped in **SOLIGNUM** before fixing

This is the best possible insurance against dry rot and decay



205 BOROUGH HIGH STREET, S.E.1

Fforestfach, 22 at Llanerch and 50 at Mayhill, being first on the programme.

The plans for 16 new dwellings have been passed by the Colwyn Bay Urban District Council. Some are of the bungalow type.

North of England.

Twenty-three houses are to be erected in Barnsley by Messrs. J. Dunk and Sons, M. Gelder, and Messrs. J. and J. G. Deighton.

The Manchester Corporation Buildings' Committee have passed the plans for two houses in Wilbraham Road, a house in Lloyds Street South, a house in Platt Lane, Withington.

The Darlington Corporation, at a recent meeting, passed the plans for 214 houses to be erected in different parts of the town.

The Bolton Town Council passed 62 plans for houses.

A house is to be built on the hospital estate by the Essex County Council for the medical superintendent of the Brentwood Mental Hospital at a cost not exceeding £3,000.

The Ministry of Health has informed the Malton Urban Council that they were prepared to approve of a scheme for 40 houses with assistance of £6 per year for 20 years. The Council propose to apply for such assistance in connection with a scheme for 30 houses to be erected on Pensley Hill by Earl Fitzwilliam.

The Dodworth Urban District Council Housing Committee published the fact that they were prepared to grant a housing subsidy. Messrs. The Old Silkstone Colliery Company desire to build 200 in the district. The Housing Committee has agreed to grant the sum of £75 in respect to every house erected by the company.

The Easington Rural District Council have been informed that the Horden Collieries, Ltd., are prepared to build 50 houses at Blackhall, all of which would qualify for the Government subsidy.

Six houses are to be erected in Oxford Road, Gomersal, for Mr. H. Thornton, the necessary plans have received the approval of the Spenborough Urban District Council.

A scheme is to be prepared for 20 houses of "A" type to be erected on the Stoney Bank site, Earby, ten or twelve of which are to be completed before the end of this year.

Mr. Henry Bowers, a builder, has informed the Blaydon Urban District Council that if he is granted a loan he will erect 50 houses all of which will fulfill the Housing Act of 1923 and rank for subsidy payment. The six plans for houses to be erected at Hyafield for Gowland Bros. of Barlow have been passed by the Council.

The plans for 126 houses in various parts of Sheffield have been examined and approved by the Corporation.

In spite of many difficulties, Sheffield report on the housing question of that city reads very favourably. But of the 655 houses erected during the past year, 269 have been built by private enterprise. Private building is in progress at Abbey Lane on the Beauchief Abbey estate. Extensive housing activities are in progress at Fulwood, bungalows seem to be in favour in this locality. Other places, such as Bents Green, Ringinglow and Parkhead can show considerable development. One firm alone propose to erect one hundred houses at Ringinglow. The question of erecting suitable school buildings in the new districts has not been overlooked, the authorities all over the country having realised that families cannot move unless school accommodation is also provided.

The South Derwent Coal Company have been informed by the clerk to the Annfield Plain Urban District Council that the Block plan for the erection of 84 houses has been conditionally approved.

Out of one hundred plans for houses which the Barnsley Town Council recently passed, seventy-five are to be built with the assistance of the Housing subsidy payable under the Housing Act of 1923.

Two houses are to be built in the Wakefield Road, Dewsbury, and also the following houses in the same locality: two in Healds Road, two in Slaithwaite Road, another in Wakefield Road, two in Leeds Road, two houses in Whitley Lower, six in South Street.

The Southport Corporation Town Planning and Improving Committee are to apply to the Ministry of Health for permission to borrow £15,000 for the purpose of granting housing subsidies. Such an amount would provide for the assisted erection of 150 houses.

Messrs. The Lambton and Hellon Collieries, Ltd., have received notice from the Houghton-le-Spring Rural District Council that the plans for 39 houses submitted by the Collieries Company for erection at Fence Houses have been approved.

Ten houses are to be built in Vale Street, Bacup. Messrs. Sir H. W. Trickett, Ltd. have submitted the necessary plans for the above houses to the Town Council.

Thirty-six houses are to be erected at Dinnington by the Kiveton Park Rural Council. Application has been made to the Ministry of Health to purchase the site necessary for these houses.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JANUARY 3, 1874.

ARCHITECTURAL PROSPECTS: THE QUEEN ANNE STYLE.
By PROFESSOR KERR.

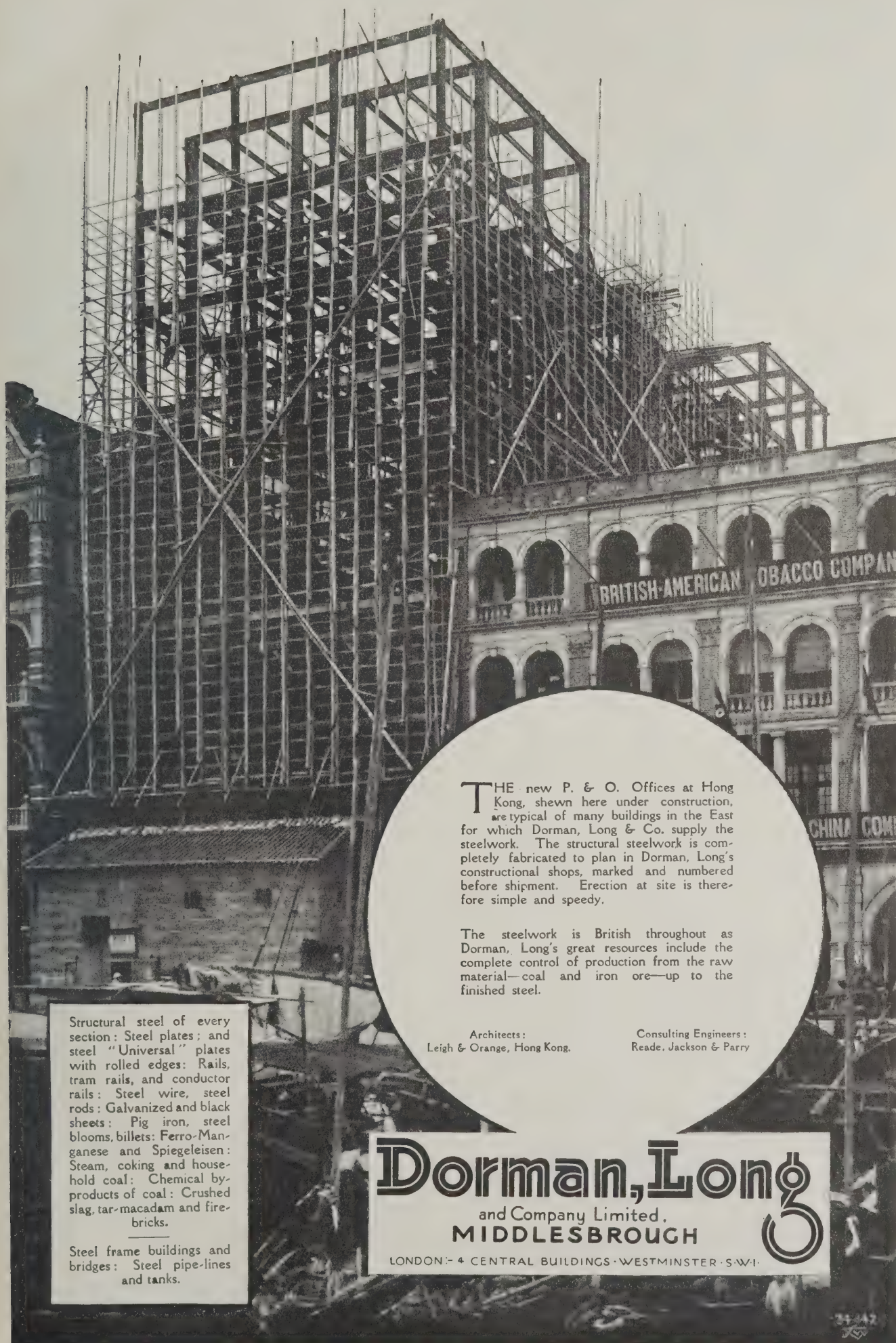
I have hinted that it is the picturesque element which has directed the attention of our new school to the Queen Anne style. My reasoning is this. The time seems to have come, as it does now and then, for some sort of "new school" to appear. The reformers would of necessity be a certain class of earnest and rising men whose dissatisfaction with an existing *régime* is to be taken as matter of course. Now the general direction of popular mediæval design for some time back has been expressly towards the picturesque. Two courses would therefore be open to the new school; on the one hand to revolt against the picturesque itself and reform the popular style, or on the other to adhere to the picturesque character, but depart from a mere scheme of popular detail—which would be looked upon as exhausted. It is the latter alternative that has been preferred; and, indeed, it is not difficult to see that it could scarcely have been otherwise. Hence, then, the discovery (taking the principle of a new *revival* for granted) that England possessed a style never as yet revived, essentially of picturesque character, but of novel detail. The novelty of the detail lies in its elementary classicism; and the picturesqueness of effect is due to a lingering retention of the mediæval, or, at least Elizabethan spirit of composition. The circumstance that the classicism of this mode is very decidedly rude and perverted must be regarded as all in favour of its acceptance; and if its mediævalism is of equally doubtful merit, this would be again so much the better for the purpose in view—which is that of essential change without essential sacrifice.

If this be correct reasoning, what is likely to be the further course of progression? On this question I argue thus. Instead of the Queen Anne mode of England, I look at the Rococo Renaissance of Europe, of which this was but one form amongst many. I think I perceive in the motive of our new school an acceptance of piquant, unpronounced, disguised Classic for its own sake as a novelty. I drop the mere incidentals of the case, and take the essential fact to be that the Renaissance is no longer disapproved except in name. It is the more picturesque end of it that we have laid hold of; but nothing more and nothing less. The work we produce from it is commendable enough—in good hands it is good work. But to suppose that a movement of this kind (which is no mere fantastic whim, such as produced the Pavilion at Brighton, or the Egyptian Hall in Piccadilly) is to go no farther, is absurd; the new style will advance along an inevitable road. This road, as I think, can only be that of the redevelopment of Renaissance at large. Probably the more pronounced piquancy which Mr. BODLEY and Mr. NORMAN SHAW favour for the moment will be speedily got rid of. Repose of general effect, with an approximation at least to fitness of feature, may soon be introduced, by those very designers, with little difficulty and with no reluctance. The Continental Rococo of Heidelberg, for example, may prove to be an early step in advance. For my own part, having always held to the belief that the *Modern European Style* must inevitably recover its authority in England, there is nothing in this new movement which is to me unexpected but the remarkable circumstance that the leading spirits of mediævalism should be the apostles of the return. But let me add that upon further reflection I see nothing even in this but what is perfectly reasonable and right, and in full accord with the laws of artistic progression. I confess that I had hoped such men as Mr. COCKERELL and Mr. SPIERS were to be the eventual leaders of a new English Renaissance—coming in at the door of academical Classicism; but if Mr. BUTTERFIELD, perhaps, and Mr. NORMAN SHAW are to have the honour instead, I congratulate them sincerely, and have no objection whatever to see them enter by the door of the extremely unacademical "Queen Anne." *Che sara sara*, and let the end justify the means.

The Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union send us their Pocket Diary for 1924 which contains some useful technical information voluntarily contributed by members of the Union. Their object is to give the professional man what he wants, and nothing he does not require, and the idea is a very good one, as architects would eliminate what is often unnecessarily given in other publications. The Diary is well produced and of a good size.

An isolation block is to be added to the Northampton General Hospital. Messrs. H. Martin, Ltd., contractors, of Northampton, have secured the contract with their tender, valued at £14,540.

Messrs. Sheppard & Lockton, architects, of Newark, have prepared the plans for a café and shops, etc., at Skegness. Invitations for tenders were issued, and S. Crawshaw has secured the contract at the tender price of £7,899.



THE new P. & O. Offices at Hong Kong, shewn here under construction, are typical of many buildings in the East for which Dorman, Long & Co. supply the steelwork. The structural steelwork is completely fabricated to plan in Dorman, Long's constructional shops, marked and numbered before shipment. Erection at site is therefore simple and speedy.

The steelwork is British throughout as Dorman, Long's great resources include the complete control of production from the raw material—coal and iron ore—up to the finished steel.

Architects:
Leigh & Orange, Hong Kong.

Consulting Engineers:
Reade, Jackson & Parry

Structural steel of every section: Steel plates; and steel "Universal" plates with rolled edges: Rails, tram rails, and conductor rails: Steel wire, steel rods: Galvanized and black sheets: Pig iron, steel blooms, billets: Ferro-Manganese and Spiegeleisen: Steam, coking and household coal: Chemical by-products of coal: Crushed slag, tar-macadam and fire-bricks.

Steel frame buildings and bridges: Steel pipe-lines and tanks.

Dorman, Long
and Company Limited,
MIDDLESBROUGH

LONDON: 4 CENTRAL BUILDINGS, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1.



General News.

Portland Stone in London.

"It is impossible to think of Rome without its silky travertine or Edinburgh without its dark grey Craigleith, or Paris without its dead cream Creil, or Venice without its glowing marmoreal stone, or Bath without its gentle yellow brown. London, of course, was not all brick when Nash came, nor did he leave it all plaster. London's many stones include Bath, Hopton Wood, Casterton, Burford, Chilmark, Kentish rag, Mansfield, York stone, granite, and many others." Thus writes Mr. James Bone in the current issue of "Country Life," in an article entitled "Portland Stone in London." He goes on to say that the stone which gives London its own peculiar aspect and beauty comes from a stern little peninsula named Portland, in Dorsetshire. Every new building of importance, we read in the article, is now built of Portland Stone. And yet we seem to remember that not long ago a protest was raised in the Press against the use of this stone in the rebuilding of Regent Street. Though we were pleased to note that the protest had little influence. From an artistic point of view the weathering process and the deposits of grime in combination produce some very fine effects. What a great deal of sentimental interest St. Paul's Cathedral would lose if all the weathering effects were removed. The white patches which almost appear as high lights in a black and white rendering of the building have a great artistic charm. Bush House a hundred years hence will make a greater appeal by virtue of the effects of time than it does to-day.

Do any of us like to see old familiar offices which have been part and parcel of our mind's picture of certain streets cleaned down and made to appear new, artistically and architecturally, we generally wish they had remained part of the mass. Take some of our London Squares built in brick with stone enrichments. Weathering has given them a beauty they surely never possessed in the freshness of their youth.

Mr. Bone continues to remark in his article that architects still ignore the decorative possibilities of the weathering effects on Portland stone and draw their elevation as though St. Martin's, Ludgate Hill, is a good example of the goblin tricks of weathering pointed streaks and arches of blackness in the lower parts, while the tower in contrast attains a silvery brilliance. The effect of drip from mouldings and courses need not be accidental, and might be considered and used to a decorative end, continues the writer of the article. With this suggestion we are not altogether in agreement; we have seen illustrations of German architecture where use has been made of such suggestions and the results are far from happy or pleasing.

Metropolitan Water Board.

Some interesting reading is contained in the Review of the Metropolitan Water Board's Work for the year ending March, 1923.

There are still seven of the original members of the first Board appointed in 1903 giving their services to-day.

The Board is constituted on the principle of indirect election, namely, of representatives (66 in all) appointed by the County Councils of London, Essex, Herts, Kent, Middlesex and Surrey, and by the Borough Councils and Urban District Councils comprising the 563 square miles statutory area of the Board. The net water rental of the Board during 1922-23 showed an increase of £1,678,543 over 1921-22.

The public is, of course, aware that the water to-day supplied by this Board is more expensive than it used to be. We all suffer under these additional burdens and long for some release; but when we read that the old scale of charges created in the year 1908-9 a deficiency of £25,279, which amounted to £1,925,338 for the year ended March, 1922, we can understand that for many years, quite irrespective of the influences of the War, the water supplied to us has been too cheap and not on an economic basis.

On April 1st, 1922, the new scale of charges became operative and for the year 1922-23 the balance sheet showed a profit on the year's working.

The Board have decided to reduce the charge for the year ending March 31st, 1924, by one half per cent., namely $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., as against 8 per cent. This is a small concession, but it is welcome, as showing a movement in the right direction.

South and West of England.

Mr. T. D. Leng, Deptford, has secured the contract for the erection of the foundations of the Rayment School, Battersea, which the L.C.C. proposes to rebuild.

Messrs. Evans, Clark & Woollatt, architects, have been instructed to prepare plans for the erection of a new out-patients, X-ray and other departments of the Nottingham General

Hospital on the reservoir site, which site had been the gift of the Corporation.

A new isolation hospital is to be built at the Hyde by the Hendon Council.

The memorial to be placed at the entrance of the Mole of Zeebrugge to commemorate the attack on the port by the British sailors will be unveiled in July next reports the "Westminster Gazette." The journal does not inform us whether the design of the memorial is the same as was the prize winning design in an international competition held about three years ago, in which some of our architects and sculptors, though not securing the first prize, obtained very creditable honours.

The premises of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son, 95 and 97 High Street, Chatham, are to be rebuilt, the necessary plans have been submitted and passed by the Town Council.

The Christchurch Sailing Club are proposing to erect a new clubhouse at a cost of £1,500.

H.M. Commissioners of Works propose to erect a new telephone exchange at New Maldon; full particulars can doubtless be obtained at the Official Office of the Department in respect to tenders, etc.

The Reigate Board of Guardians have been advised by Mr. O. J. Porter, architect, of 45 Bedford Row, W.C., with regard to the erection of a laundry and extension of boiler-house, plans have been prepared by the architect.

New schools are to be built by the Surrey Education Committee during the present year at Wallington; it is contemplated to build premises which will cost £30,000. Reigate is to have a new school costing £22,500 and £30,000 is to be spent at Kingston-on-Thames. Epsom, £5,000; Merton, £7,500; and Mitcham, £16,000.

New Catalogues.

Messrs. J. and R. Howie, Ltd., of the Hurlford Fireclay Works, Kilmarnock, Scotland, send us a copy of their new catalogue and price list of sanitary goods. The catalogue consists of 100 pages, each illustrated with examples of the fireclay goods made and supplied by this firm. The price list is printed separately, and inserted by a cord in the back of the cover, enabling this to be removed if desired. The whole is bound in stiff green cover, and is clearly printed; the illustrations are sufficiently bold to give an adequate idea of the design.

The Bedford Engineering Company, steam and electric crane manufacturers, of Bedford, forward us a copy of their catalogue, which they have specially prepared for colonial and foreign buyers. The firm, in their opening remarks, point out that as old-established manufacturers they have good opportunity of ascertaining the kind of information that should be furnished for the buyer of steam, electric and hand cranes. The firm has specialised for thirty years in the design and construction of cranes, and their works have been exclusively equipped for crane-building. The catalogue is well illustrated, and the particulars of description are in "code" form, with explanatory letterpress; at the back of the catalogue will be found an approximate shipping specification of one steam or electric locomotive crane. Full description of the crane appears under each illustration.

The Woco Door Company (J. W. Evans, proprietor), of Dashwood House, New Broad Street, E.C.2, and Cunard Building, Liverpool, have issued a catalogue of their Woco doors. These Woco Columbian pine doors are made from selected and well-seasoned timber by a special process, the timber selected contains no knots or other defects, so that the expense of knotting, priming and painting to hide defects is entirely obviated. The company guarantee that they will not shrink, warp or twist owing to a special process by which the timber is seasoned. The finish of the Woco door is such that it can be lightly oak-stained and polished with a wax compound at a nominal cost, the result being a grain of a particularly pleasing effect. Large stocks are carried in this country so that there is no delay in supplying. The Woco Door Company submit the following considerations for the architect:—

Our guarantee against warping, twisting or shrinking because timber used is scientifically kiln-dried by a special process. Panels showing beautiful grain patterns are rotary cut laminated 3-ply. Only damp-proof glue used. No knots—free from the defects usually found in doors of medium cost. Excellent appearance, only staining required—no unsightly defects and knots to be covered up with expensive painting. Designs—several attractive patterns as a result of 30 years' experience designing and making standardised joinery.

The premises of the Liverpool and Martins Bank, Ltd., Westgate, Dewsbury, are to undergo reconstruction. The plans have been passed by the local authorities.

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The Impossible Client.



CAMBRIDGE WAR MEMORIAL.
GEORGE HUBBARD & SON, Architects.

An architect, like other men, sometimes has abortive business relations with clients whose methods and actions relegate them to the category of impossible people, and the sooner the architect recognises these black sheep the more trouble he will save himself. Sometimes clients have very definite views and schemes and simply want them "licked into shape," and though the resultant building usually falls short of what it might be, the architect may reasonably act as a producing agent provided he is not called upon to create an enormity. But if in addition to being asked to carry out a definite scheme he is called on to "make bricks without straw," or, in other words, to give 9d. for 4d., and the client will not listen to his demonstration of the impossibility of such a procedure, it is far wiser for architect and client to part at the outset than for the architect to prepare plans and get tenders. If he does so, the impossible client will seize on some small points to justify his contention that if the architect knew his business he could have given him what was wanted.

We must bear in mind that the impossible client will always come into touch with irresponsible people

to whom he will state at great lengths his views, and who, to get rid of a bore, will acquiesce in those views. The impossible client will then go away and quote Mr. So-and-so as if he had been employed as an arbitrator to give a judgment on the facts of the case. Very few men are sufficiently careful in giving opinions on points put to them in casual conversation, and the impossible client may be depended upon never to state a case fairly.

Another type of impossible client is the man who is fundamentally unable to act loyally. By this we mean that when a client employs an architect he should do so after having satisfied himself that he has gone to a competent and honest man. If he has done so, there should be frankness on both sides. The architect should not, because he likes one type of design, make out that something else is impossible; neither should he, because his client has expressed a wish for a wrong solution, fail to show him what he considers as being the right one. If he does so, he, being in a position of trust, has not spoken the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. But, confronted with what he does not care about, the impossible client suddenly acts disloyally to the architect he has employed, takes other advice and either breaks away altogether or gives his architect infinite trouble and annoyance by his want of loyalty.

Facts are stubborn things, but should not be evaded, and the conscientious architect will as far as possible put a true case before his client, not allowing himself to be governed by his own personal predilections. Many clients cannot understand this attitude, and consider that anything but immediate acquiescence in their views is disagreeable obstinacy, whereas it is they who show themselves to be impossible and unreasonable.

The settlement of a builder's account will often produce bad blood between architect and client, in some cases revealing a character which, realised beforehand, would prevent an architect from doing work for a client.

Such a man overlooks the fact that building represents a definite cost in money, and that this cost in no ways depends on whether a particular building represents a good commercial return on what has been spent or not.

Because a client thinks, after having built, that he might have done more wisely in expending money differently, he has no right to quibble about the cost.

The builder has no bottomless purse out of which he can compensate the building owner for the results of a mistake. But the impossible client is affronted because he finds that his architect is unwilling to treat a contractor like a criminal. He further omits to consider that the architect has no power to act illegally in his interests, and that though an architect's future depends in a large measure on being able to satisfy his client, it depends in a certain measure on being able to convince builders that they will always be treated with fairness and equity. Convinced

of this, contractors will always be willing to tender and will quote their lowest reasonable price. On the other hand, those architects who convert themselves into the client's tools will find themselves, if not actually black-listed by good contractors, quite unable to obtain favourable terms for their clients. In a word, honesty pays in business relations—if not in every case, in the long run.

Builders are human and are not, to use a colloquialism, in business for their health; but on the other hand it would, we believe, be very hard to find a calling the members of which as a whole reached so high a standard of conduct, and who more thoroughly try to do the best for those who employ them.

We all admire the prowess and courage of a tight-rope performer, but feel little desire to essay his task. In the same way we always feel admiration for the courage with which builders as a whole undertake the manifold risks involved in a building contract, and we know that in a very large proportion of cases they do their work equally efficiently whether they find they have made a good or bad bargain. The architect who sacrifices the contractor to the impossible client may be likened to the dog who dropped his meat to snatch at its reflection in the stream, for he may be sure, do what he will, he will never satisfy the impossible client, and is almost always best without his munificent patronage.

Our Illustrations.

ARCHITECTURE SERIES OF MEASURED DETAILS. Drawn by WALTER McQUADE.

THE CAMBRIDGE WAR MEMORIAL (COUNTY TOWN AND UNIVERSITY). GEORGE HUBBARD & SON, Architects.

PENCIL DRAWINGS OF PARTS OF OLD LONDON. By GEORGE H. COOK.

ARCHITECTURE SERIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS.

We give reproductions of two plates from a series of very interesting measured drawings of New York buildings published by Messrs. Chas. Scribner and Sons. The portfolio contains 24 plates, and the work shown is both good and interesting, while the fullest details are given and explained by inset photographic views. The cost of the portfolio is 25s., and it can be obtained through Messrs. B. T. Batsford.

CAMBRIDGE WAR MEMORIAL.

The panels shown in the illustrations represent the Arms of Cambridge University, the Town of Cambridge, the County Arms and the Isle of Ely; and are carved in Portland stone. These four panels surround the pedestal, which is surmounted by the bronze figure of a soldier. The designs were prepared by Messrs. George Hubbard and Son, architects, and the work was executed by Messrs. Rattee & Ket, of Cambridge.

Notes and Comments.

The R.I.B.A. Academic Dress.

The Academic Dress Committee recommend—we think most wisely—that the proposal should be dropped. We find it difficult to understand why it was ever raised, and do not believe if it were carried out that more than half a dozen members of the profession would ever wear the strange garments proposed. Very probably if they appeared in them once or twice they would find comment on their appearance so lively and animated that they would be driven back on a future occasion to the comparative security given by their ordinary costume.

We read from time to time of enterprising tailors who seek to make evening dress more interesting by giving us purple velvet collars or amethyst buttons, but these proposals end in a newspaper paragraph. Yet they are far more feasible and reasonable than are the proposals for an Institute Academic dress. Possibly one Academic dress might be made, and every member of the Institute photographed in it in turn, and then the individual photographs might be grouped together and sold to give the public a general impression of our dignity and culture. If this test greatly impressed our clients we should feel we might usefully order the new garments.

The Shortage of Skilled Labour in the Building Trades.

The following members have been appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. on the proposed Conference on the Shortage of Skilled Labour in the Building Trades: The President, the Hon. Secretary, Major Harry Barnes, Mr. Percy Thomas, Mr. T. R. Milbourn, Mr. Herbert A. Welch, and Mr. G. Hastwell Greyson. We wish the Conference all success, but we fear that little can be done until the Unions relax the restrictive policy which prevents a man from passing freely from one trade to another, and which is jealous of any system which grades men according to the quality of their work and the amount of their output. At present there is too little disparity between the payment of skilled and unskilled labour, and the demarcation disputes which arise emphasise the fact that the different sections of the Labour world are divided from one another by walls. Only

when it is proposed to make increasing demands on the employer does there seem to be unanimity and enthusiasm, and long ago it was easy to unite the hordes under Attila in an expedition which swept over the greater part of two continents.

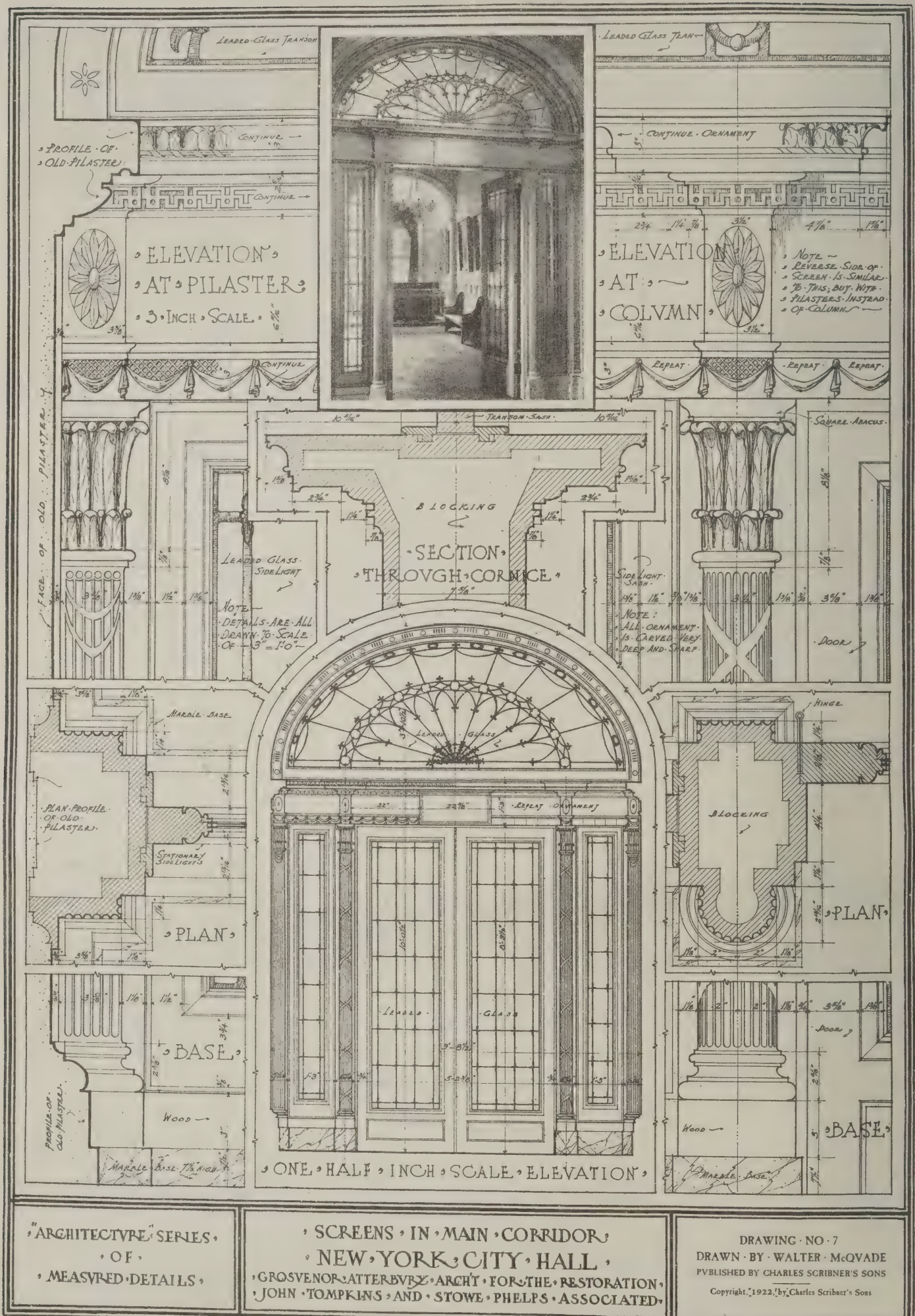
The Housing Problem.

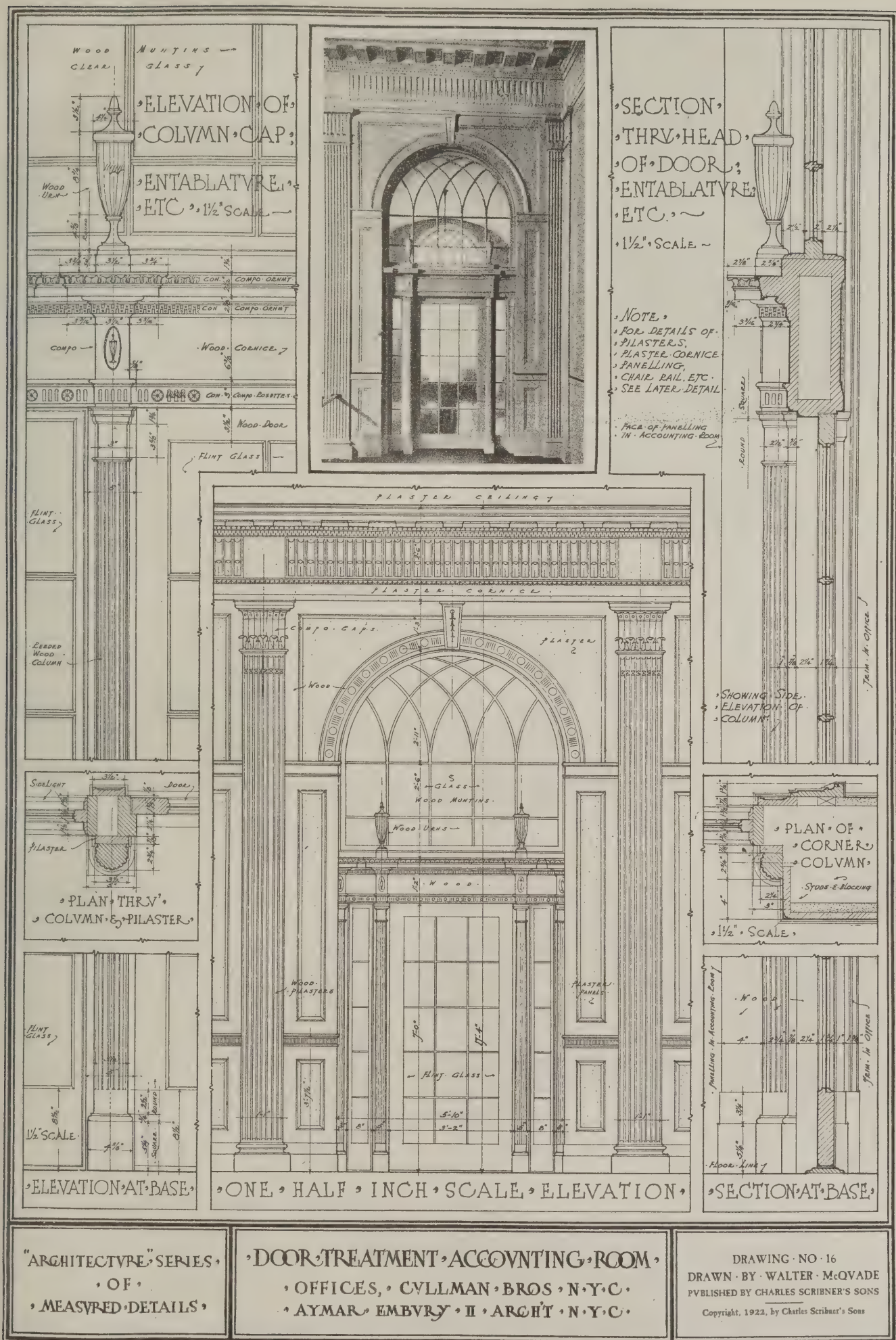
The President of the Scottish Labour Housing Association, speaking at Glasgow, said that the whole problem and outlook of Housing was influenced by the fact that Labour was now a great power, and that the legislative atmosphere up to now had been most unsympathetic to landlords. Private enterprise had failed and would never adequately house the people. We should like to ask Mr. Waugh whether he thinks it likely that Housing will be produced if an unsympathetic atmosphere exists in dealing with those who have housed the great bulk of the population in the past? It would seem that we have not been logical in expecting a tap to run if we deliberately cork it up. The questions which Labour should be called on to answer are—firstly, whether it considers it reasonable that the State should house people at a loss; and the second, whether, if it is necessary for the State to do so, the real remedy is not either to raise wages, or, if it is impossible to do so, to find some other occupation or place of residence for those who are unable to make two ends meet. We must, in a word, trace evils back to their sources and not merely tinker away at what are incidental and inevitable results.

Patent Houses.

Mr. Robert Thomson has given much thought and attention to the subject of Housing, and has designed some types for the Labour Housing Association which are both ingenious and admirable in their efficient use of all available space. He has applied for a patent to protect his ideas, but we have doubts whether any protection which can be afforded by this method is practicable, while we are sure it is not desirable in the interests of the community. It is next to impossible to show that a special arrangement of cupboards or stairs has not been carried out somewhere before or might not occur to any good planner without

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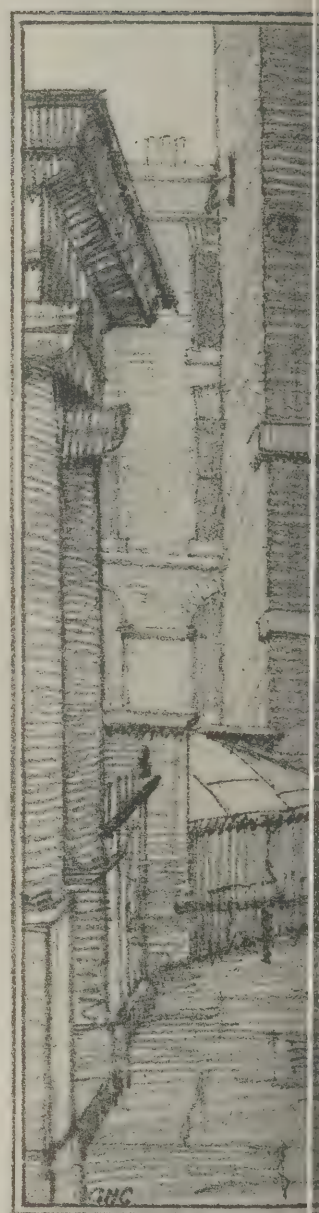
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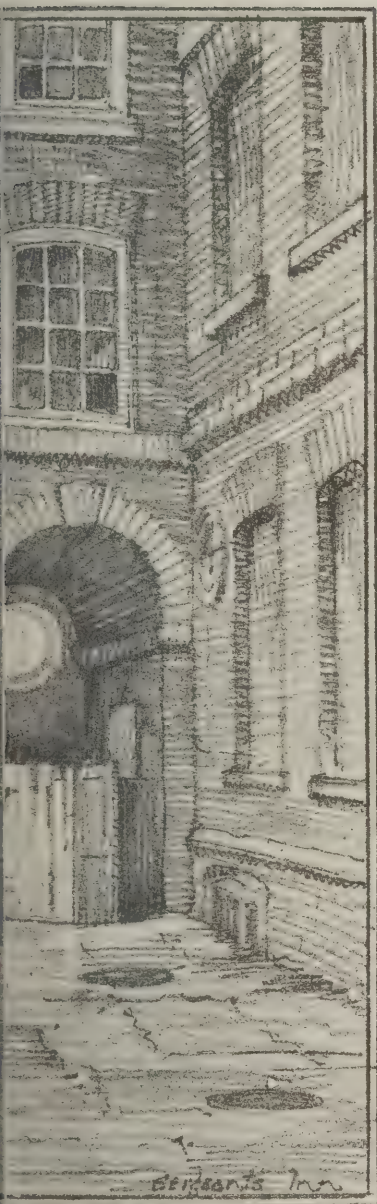
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6-23



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FRENCH ORDINARY COURT
CRUTCHED FRIARS

PARTS OF OLD LONDON.

GEORGE H. COOK.

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reference to other people's plans, and the difficulty of protecting a patented plan seems to us almost insuperable. We all remember the historic case when Messrs. Flockton & Gibbs endeavoured to patent an arrangement of planning for a municipal building, and we feel certain that if they could not achieve success it would be infinitely harder to protect a type of Housing plan which, if published, would probably be safely copied in many districts without having attention called to it. We doubt whether the Law of Copyright, as applied to architectural designs, is worth anything at all to any architect.

We give from the current number of "Harlequinade" the following amusing verses:—

The Fifty-Seven Lamps of Architecture.

(Reprinted from the "Saturday Evening Post.")

When I had decided to build me a house

I felt just a little afraid

That plan and design were not quite in my line

So I sought architectural aid.

And I said: "Show me, pray, something most *recherché*,

For I'm wearing of hanging my hat

In an Early Victorian,

Pre-Montessorian,

Plain two-by-four-ean flat."

The architect puffed at his period pipe,
As he sat in his Renaissance chair,

And he gave me a smile in the pure Gothic style,
Though he spoke with a Romanesque air.
Said he: "If your taste is not wholly debased,
The best you are certain to find,
Is the later colonial,
Pseudo baronial,
G. Washingtonian kind."

I thanked him politely and paid him his fee,
But sundry acquaintances cried,
"That stuff you should shun, for it hasn't been done
Since Benjamin Harrison died!"
And they took me direct to a new architect,
Who argued with logic compelling
For a quasi Delsartean,
Post-Bonapartean,
Wholly Beaux-Artian dwelling.

My downfall had started; I groped in a maze
Of traces, transitions and trends,
And I laboured anew over prints that were blue,
With the aid of my numerous friends.
But I don't knit my brow about building plans now,
For all of my money is spent—
And my home's an Arcadian,
Second-Crusadean,
Pink-lemonadean tent!

STODDARD KING.

Correspondence.

Too Shy to Advertise?

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Will you permit me to congratulate you on the article which appeared in your pages last week, and I may be further forgiven, perhaps, if I also refer to "Lady Architect's" letter, with whose remarks I also agree.

I have been a regular reader of THE ARCHITECT for more years than I feel I care to contemplate. I think I could probably state with all truthfulness that I have hardly missed reading an issue since the year 1885, which I think may be considered something of a record; and that does not cover the whole period, for in 1885 I remember having presented to me ten back volumes of THE ARCHITECT, which have since given me many pleasurable and instructive hours' reading.

I will not pretend that I have always agreed with the contents in your journal, or say that I have always admired the designs published, but nevertheless I can truthfully state that usually I have found something to interest me. For many a long day I have not read an article which has given me personally more satisfaction than the one I refer to signed by "Adze." The hideous disfigurement of many of our London buildings is rapidly becoming an eyesore. You have examples in your own district, Ludgate Circus, and your own building, sir, is to my mind ruined (although I am not prepared to give it any architectural merit) by its dirty appearance, but infinitely more so by the crude and inartistic lettering which is beplastered over its façade.

Instead of a Capital Levy, a tax, and a stiff one, on this sort of advertisement would be an effective and useful form of revenue, which I venture to suggest would soon reduce the National Debt, although personally I would sooner see an Act making it a penal offence to deface our buildings in this manner. Possibly a Labour Government, if we get one, will seize upon such an opportunity.

Finally, I should like to refer to your announcement on page 24, and to congratulate you on your decision to do another Bungalow and Country House Number. I was much taken with one or two designs in your previous issue. My own work does not bring me in contact with Domestic Architecture, but the demand to-day for a small easily run home is very great.—I am, yours, etc.

A QUANTITY SURVEYOR.

The Office of Works: Art in Architecture, and the Public.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—The letter from the pen of Mr. William Woodward in your last issue is a sane indictment of a public body which, originally instituted for a perfectly reasonable object, has grown, and particularly during the War, to such a size and has

taken over such a vast extent of work that, as Mr. Woodward points out, its position to-day is that of one of the largest of our public departments dipping into the public purse. This is bad from the practising architect's point of view, but Mr. Woodward goes on to point out what, to my mind, is of even greater importance, and that is the danger from the archæological side of the question. In this side of the question we have a grave warning in the way that work has been carried out by this body. In past work of this sort it has been generally entrusted to men who have approached their work with the inspiration of a feeling of love and reverence for the task entrusted to them, and we have the men in the profession to-day who could be relied on to faithfully, and I have no doubt from a financial point of view unprofitably to themselves, carry out such work. The very nature of the work usually carried out by the "official mind" is detrimental to such a proceeding. I sincerely trust that Mr. Woodward's timely warning may bear effect.

Hoping that you can find me a corner for this communication, I am, yours, etc.,

A SURREY ARCHÆOLOGIST.

January 7, 1924.

Menai Suspension Bridge.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Are not the two County Councils concerned too precipitate in adopting the Government's proposal to replace Telford's graceful structure by a ferro-concrete bridge, subject only to a prior examination of its design?

We know the weakness of Telford's bridge in respect of

(1) Insufficient consideration of wind pressure,

(2) Localisation of weight of traffic,

(3) Consequent crystallisation,

all of which can be removed by

(1) Light lattice girders distributing the weight on to many, instead of, as now, on to but a few, of the suspension rods.

(2) By a system of cross diagonal bracing in, or under the floor, and to the chains.

(3) By annealing.

We suggest that accurate drawings of the present bridge, together with a report of its condition and statement of the new requirements, be prepared, from which tenders for a conservative strengthening be obtained before, if at all, proceeding with the Government's drastic proposal.

Objects of beauty are too little considered.

Might not both Councils unite to stop that vandalism, the destruction of Penmaenmawr Mountain?

Had not our principal of fifty years ago intervened, the beautiful oak roof of Conway Church would have been destroyed and been replaced by an acutely pointed one of common deal.—Yours, etc.,

A. HENTHORN STOTT.

North Wales University Science Buildings, Bangor.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if you would insert the following information in your columns.

We understand from Mr. Alan Munby that the announcement made some weeks ago in the public press as to the contractors for the above work now requires correction. The tenders were submitted to the North Wales Heroes' Memorial Council, when the lowest, that of Messrs. Trollope and Colls, was accepted by formal resolution as was reported, but before formalities could be completed Messrs. Trollope and Colls withdrew and the work has now been placed in the hands of Messrs. John Laing and Sons, of Carlisle.

Publication of this change will assist a good many persons interested in one way or another in the erection of these buildings.—Yours, etc.,

ALAN E. MUNBY.

January 3, 1923.

Economics of Estate Management.

By D. T. Thring (Fellow).

The paper read before the ordinary general meeting of the Surveyors' Institution on January 7 held many points of interest for the architect; and having consideration for the present condition of affairs, the selection of such a subject was bound to open up many points of interest for a considerable portion of the public. Any survey of the history of land for the past 100 years will at once prove that landowners have indeed served a very useful purpose. It will be a sad day for British farming when the wealthy classes cease to take any active interest in land.

The money spent on estate improvements and on bringing the livestock of England up to its present standard has hardly ever brought in a good return to the landowner; in fact, it is a question whether there has ever been any appreciable return in the commercial sense.

Times have now changed, and the old stamp of owner, who took a pride in the possession of the family estates and in the responsibility thereby incurred, has nearly died out; and of those owners who are left, few have "wealth and material resources" at their command. Death duties, high income tax, super-tax on stationary incomes derived from a non-fluid capital, have been the chief causes of this disappearance. The loss of the prestige, amenities and position that used to be synonymous with the ownership of land, and the fact that a landowner is hampered by innumerable laws in dealing with his own land, have materially hastened the change.

Sir Howard Frank very kindly placed at my disposal figures as to England and Wales, prepared from the records of his firm, covering the years 1918 to 1922, which show that an original number of 225 owners was converted, after the sales, into 4,224. These remarkable and valuable figures at once enforce the statement that times have changed, and that when one talks about a landowner he is certainly not now the person of influence, and possibly affluence, that he may have been in the past; hence it is advisable to try and form some idea of the number of landowners who are possessed of "wealth and material resources," and who are willing and able to spend them in a "useful and frugal manner."

Before coming to the question of how money, whether derived from capital or borrowed from Land Improvement Company, can be usefully spent now, as it was in the 'eighties and 'nineties, on the improvement and retention of land already under cultivation, it is advisable to consider whether the same inducements hold good now as then.

The return prepared for the Agricultural Economics Commission by the Land Agents' Society from the actual figures shows that the net return from the rents was only 3½ per cent. on the cost of equipment (about £20 per acre); or, in other words, that no return whatever was yielded by the land. This is an important fact and well worth consideration, one thing at least being clear, that English land, the one undeniable asset of the nation, is the cheapest in the world, and that this is the result of English policy as carried out at the expressed wish of the people.

Figures obtained before the war from the records of a large estate show that, for a period of twenty years, the owner secured only one-half per cent. on the value of his property, subscriptions and expenditure on churches and schools being excluded.

Members of the Institution will know of countless cases where the reasonable reinstatement value of the house and buildings for fire insurance purposes far exceeds the price given for the complete farm. It may be urged by some, perhaps justly, that the money has already been lost, and, anyway, the facts

stated show clearly that fresh capital must continually be spent on land in order to maintain the rents. This is recognised by the laws relating both to income tax and local rates, and must be an ever-present consideration with the landowner.

Can it be said now, as it was in the past, that English land is the best of all securities? A landlord must remember that public bodies have powers over the land, conferred on them by Acts of Parliament, and that almost every year fresh inroads on those belonging to landowners are being made or suggested. He must also remember that there is a not inconsiderable number of people who advocate a single tax levied on land, with a view to its ultimate nationalisation; and that there is a tendency to give the tenant nearly as great an interest in his holding as that of the owner. Nor is it likely that a landowner will forget the campaign which resulted in the land taxes in the Finance Act, 1910.

When an owner is faced with the necessity of considerably reducing his rents, what are the alternatives? One is to sell, another to let the land go out of cultivation, another to farm it himself, and another to equip the land for a different method of farming so as to lower the costs of production.

Rents have, roughly speaking, been raised about 12½ per cent. above the 1912 values, although, of course, many were raised far more than that because they stood at figures fixed in the 'nineties. This 12½ per cent. rise is more than justified when the present purchasing power of money is compared with what it was in 1914.

Many owners now live from hand to mouth, and are quite unable to either reduce rents or to put in fresh capital, and these owners, if rents fall, will be forced to sell their land.

The old stamp of landowner with capital at his disposal and the new wealthy owners of large property will very seriously consider how far they are justified, from the point of view of investment, in reducing their rents. They may, however, consider the advisability of spending money on improvements which will possibly have the effect of enabling the tenant to make more money than he would obtain by a reduction of rent.

Men of wealth owning small estates may possibly farm their own land when the tenant gives up.

Business men and corporations will consider for how many years reductions need be given, and may decide on the old principle that it is useless throwing good money after bad, and that the first loss is the best. Anyway the inducements to hold on to land that held good in the 'eighties will not affect this class of owner, so that the chances will be small of their spending wealth in a "useful and frugal" manner on the land, the likelihood of a fair return being the ruling factor of their conduct.

The case of the occupying owner will be the hardest of all. If he cannot hold on, by some method or other, over the period of depression, he has no other course but to sell and try to save something out of the ruin. The figures of the Ministry of Agriculture show that the numbers in this class have increased enormously, and those of Sir Howard Frank, if applied to the whole of England, would show a still greater increase.

The foregoing remarks are all to the point, and anyone who knows much about the conditions under which great estates are held knows that the incidence of taxation and rating have made the owner's position an impossible one. Formerly at the best he obtained a very moderate return on capital expended. His management and administration was given mainly from his love for the land, its interests and associations. With a diminishing agricultural industry, high taxation and the extension of towns, the squire is being eliminated. Chaos and the destruction of the country are bound to be brought about unless the provisions of the Housing and Town Planning Act are made compulsory, so as to eliminate the haphazard spoiling of the sections of property into which the great estates are being divided. The community, in other words, must step into the squire's place and control the laying out and cutting up of the country.

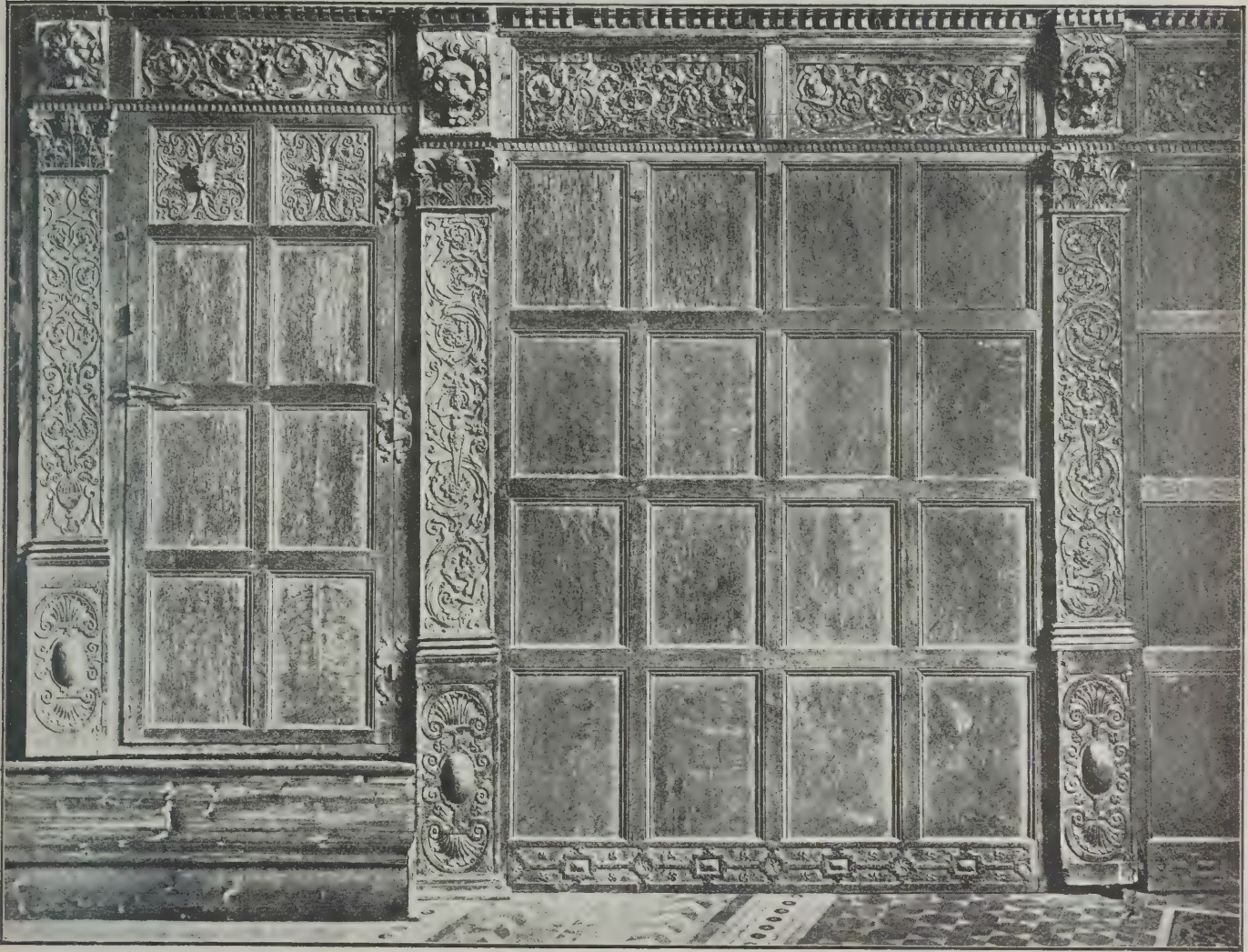
Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., architect, has recently prepared the designs for Messrs. John Barker's new premises on the site next to the firm's furnishing department. Building operations are to be started at once. The building will be about 200 feet square and will cost about half a million sterling.

The new Tottenham Court Road underground station involves the development of the Hampstead line station and extending the same underneath the roadway. In this way the Central London station will become unnecessary. The new booking hall will have an area of 3,000 square feet. The public will possibly have access to the new station from the many corners of the streets that meet at this point in a way similar to what is in force at the Bank station, thus eliminating the necessity of crossing this congested point above ground. Escalators will convey the public direct to all the platforms. The scheme is estimated to cost £112,000.

English Renaissance Interiors.—I.

P. W. Hubbard, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

INTRODUCTION.



PANELLING OAK REMOVED FROM AN OLD HOUSE NEAR EXETER. ENGLISH 16TH CENTURY.

Reproduced by permission of the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington.

It is hard to put back the clock three hundred years, and to get inside the minds of those who built in the days of the Early Stuarts. It is still more difficult to understand why such a revulsion of feeling should have caused the designers of those times to depart so entirely from the deep-rooted traditions of our national and conservative Gothicism.

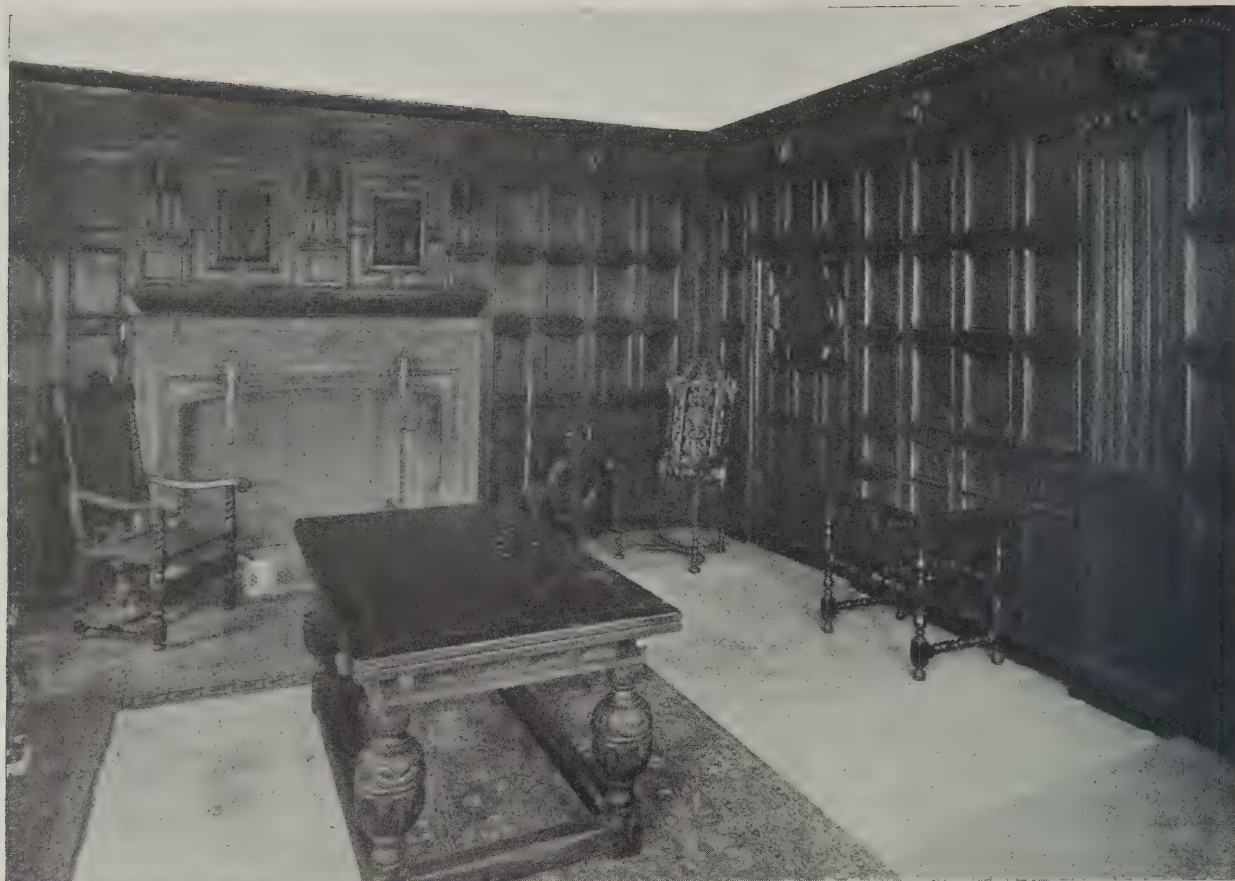
It is easy to say that the Perpendicular and Tudor styles were eking out the remnants of an architecture that had already expended its power and virility. Certainly, in Ecclesiastical work, we have the signs that indicate the final flickerings of played-out medievalism, but in the domestic work of the sixteenth century England may be justly proud of her national contribution to architecture, of which there is no parallel elsewhere.

While this style is still flourishing, there comes the Renaissance, which discounts the continuity of our domestic tradition, and seems to have taken such a hold on the minds of all concerned that we find the diarist, John Evelyn, speaking of the "Gothic Order" as a "fantastic and licentious manner of building." Such expressions as "spired up all it could," and "a fine building, though Gothic," were also used.

How was it that this return to classic thought and ways in building influenced and finally gripped the minds of the people? It was not until the more tranquil days of Charles II. that men had time to think of much else than their own security. Even what we should now call the operatives can have understood little of the meaning of

the new art. The workers had been born and bred to the exigencies of local conditions. For generations they had copied Gothic form and ideas; their art and their craft went hand in hand through the ages, and their buildings just rambled on to their conclusions. Surely the change that had come over the mentality of the country was induced by the cultured few, who imposed their art-effort by isolated examples, until the nobility, influenced by love of novel fashions, insisted on all their schemes being treated in the manner of that undoubted home of art—Italy.

The history of the times is the record of the achievements of great personages and those they thought fit to employ. Throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries we find constant examples of men of comparatively humble origin whose latent genius had been discovered by patrons of art. These men were enabled to develop their talents by a period of study on the Continent. James Gibbs, who had previously travelled in Holland, was assisted by the Earl of Mar to visit Rome; as, indeed, was William Kent, who, according to Walpole, "excited a generous patronage in some gentlemen, who raised a contribution sufficient to send him to Rome in the year 1710." It was there that he attracted the attention of Lord Burlington. Isaac Ware was another who benefited by a journey to Italy, through a patron's kindness. Sir Christopher Wren, however, had not been farther afield than Paris, whither he departed on his own initiative in 1665. Nevertheless, he brought back "all France on paper," as evinced by the influence of Le Pautre, which may be seen in some of his work.



ELIZABETHAN ROOM. By kind permission MESSRS. ROBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.

Another cause of the change in design that swept through England was the appearance of "Architects."

Architecting had previously been the combination of various trades; design and workmanship were classed together. Now, however, there were signs that a single mind was controlling and co-ordinating all parts into a homogeneous whole.

Where houses used to be a conglomeration of rooms, with yet more rooms added as need dictated, and where outline and symmetry were subordinated, we now observe the presence of Design—which word means intention. Plan and elevation were simultaneously evolved, details were thought out and placed more in relation and scale to the parts they affected. Domestic work in this age shows an æsthetic desire to cultivate beauty for its own sake.

Designing, with regard to mere utility alone, gives place to a desire to please the eye as well—so much so, in fact, that in some of Sir John Vanbrugh's work convenient planning and suitable arrangements for ordinary habitation had been so discounted that, as Mr. Gotch reminds us, Pope satirically remarked of Blenheim:—" 'Tis very fine, but where d'ye sleep and where d'ye dine? "

It has often been averred that art is the surest medium for expressing the true mentality of an age; but the history of Stuart and Georgian times does not stand out as a particularly praiseworthy example of political or social morality. Yet it is a fact that in this period some of our most glorious creative works were produced, works ranging from splendid palaces and magnificent paintings to fine copper-plate lettering and well-designed door-furniture.

How was it that this artistic advancement was so permeating in its effect?

It may safely be assumed that the above-mentioned cultured few, being encouraged to exploit the revived classic art, could not help being followed by the craftsmen of succeeding generations, who now copied the modern examples which were springing up around them, and forgot the Gothic tradition of their fathers, who had built much as they chose, little caring for the changes of taste and thought which were taking place on the Continent.

Thus, in the days of the first James and Charles, we still find the Gothic feeling of the Jacobean disclosing itself beneath a clothing of Renaissance detail.

To men of culture or purists in style, this early travesty of classic forms must have been little short of nauseating.

Nowadays we admire the late Elizabethan and Jacobean buildings, on account of their virility, the strength of their decorations, occasioned by the enthusiasms of craftsmen in a transitional period. We admire the picturesqueness of their creations, and are too often tempted to dub them as works of art because of their period.

But since the rage for Greek and Roman compositions increased those who had been to Italy and those who now studied the art of classic proportion could constitute themselves as incontrovertible authorities. Were they not supported by the classification of the five orders of Roman architecture, worked out in modules by Serlio and Scamozzi? Just as the French imbibed the teaching of Vignole, so we followed the dictates of Palladio.

We are quite aware of all that may be said against the practice of blindly following a too stereotyped form of strict classic formality, of being hidebound by inexorable rules that curb the free, untrammelled play of architectural adventure, but—and a big "but"—surely those designers of the eighteenth century, be they Gibbs or Sheraton, were right in keeping to the true classic proportion, if their conceptions were to be based on the classic revival.

Too often have the architects of the English Renaissance been condemned for their strict adherence to their Italian prototypes, but let it be remembered that no one since Ictinus has improved on classic proportion. The Romans tried, and just missed that something which makes the Golden Age of Greece a synonym for truth-cum-beauty.

Paradoxically, however, we may repeat what has often been pointed out before, that Wren's work bears that essentially English quality, which perchance might have been lost had he studied in Italy, like Inigo Jones, Gibbs, Adam and hosts of others.

Wren, with his special genius, could afford to be original, though even he could not improve on the Orders—in fact,

wherever he has tampered with their "rules" of proportion the result has not been to his credit. The excuse that "Wren could do it" is not necessarily a justification for disobedience to artistic precepts that have been founded on experience.

The contrast in the appearance of a room built in 1600 to that which was evolved a hundred years later is so remarkable that it is necessary to trace bit by bit, and feature by feature, the process that led eventually to the fully developed Georgian style. The magnificence of our domestic architecture, which culminated in the eighteenth century, was due to a series of causes already foreshadowed; and, though the several countries of Europe each produced their own national interpretations of art, the source of the mutual inspiration was derived in each case from Italy.

carving of the leaf pattern on the "ogee" moulding of the dado rail, are quite sufficient to remind me that I, too, possess something that is seen by so many and realised by so few.

TREATMENT OF WALL SURFACE.

To start at the beginning, medieval times show us how desire for utility and protection was paramount, while comfort and æsthetic expression in domestic work were subordinated until the days of Elizabeth.

With the Tudor period we are accustomed to associate small panels, small window panes, surfaces irritated by small patterns, low ceilings or oak beams and all the rest of it.

With the classical revival, however, comes the tendency to enlarge the scale. We perceive the inclination for a



ROOM AT BROMLEY-BY-BOW. Reproduced by permission of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

From the heart of that country flowed "the foul torrent of the Renaissance," as Ruskin has it—a remark on a par with that of Evelyn, already quoted.

At any rate, it can scarcely be denied that various noble mansions of the first half of the seventeenth century, even if devoid of old-world charm, possess a certain quality, which, perhaps, I may be permitted to describe as "monumentality." Strip these rooms bare of furniture, carpets and fittings, and they still retain a noble dignity and grandeur, a sense of fine proportion, which gives us the feeling that they suffice in themselves and require no further embellishments. Were I a sort of "Brobdingnagian" collector of curious and antiques, with the means of a Croesus and the taste of a Lord Chesterfield, I should collect rooms—just rooms. The knowledge that the frieze under the mantelpiece in my "Adam's room" was the work of Flaxman would give me as much pleasure as a collector would derive from the possession of his Wedgwood vases, Voyez plaques or other bric-à-brac of the period. The collector delights in the fact that his pictures are the real decoration for his walls, while I am content with the wall-surface of my William and Mary room by itself. The beautiful texture of the oak panels, the well-executed

more monumental treatment. The disposition of the vertical and horizontal divisions of a room reflects a surer understanding of proportion and a truer sense of the relationship of part to whole, and a greater purity of line.

Formerly there were few unadorned spaces on which the eye could rest while it roamed round the room, but by the middle of the seventeenth century the walls presented a quieter and clearer surface, which gave far greater value to the decoration that was now, for the most part, carefully concentrated at certain places, such as over the door and round the fireplace.

The causes of this change were chiefly due to the alteration in the construction of panelling, which was the usual method adopted for covering the interior surface of walls.

Tudor England had an abundant supply of oak, and craftsmen for generations had been acquainted with its use.

In Gothic times the panels were formed of boards placed between uprights, about 2 feet apart. A horizontal rail divided the wall into two unequal parts (see fig. 1). The framing was about 4 inches wide by as much as 3 inches thick, and the edges were usually splayed or moulded. At a later period it was realised that the depth of the framing could be reduced, though the width remained the same.

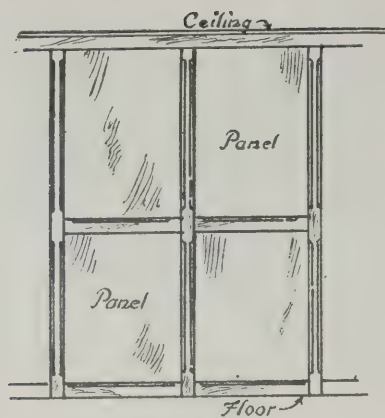


Fig. 1

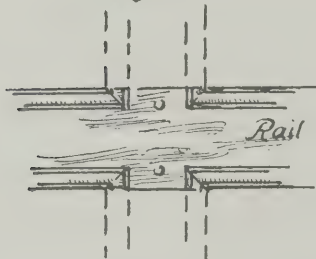


Fig. 2

The great change that occurred some time in the fifteenth century was that panels were made much smaller, and consequently multiplied in number. Down to the reigns of James I. and Charles I. we find that panels had become squarer in shape. They frequently measure 14 inches vertically by 10 inches, the standard scantlings of wood facilitating the adoption of this size. Wooden pegs were used for securing the framework, and it was not until this had already been fixed *in situ* that the square edges were worked into the form of mouldings. It may readily be seen that, had a stile been made in one length, and its edges splayed or moulded, it would have occasioned a considerable amount of laborious work to make neat joints at the places where the rails butted against it. Thus it was that after the framing had been fitted together a plane was worked along the edges to form splays and mouldings, but they were forced to die off before the junction of horizontal and vertical member was reached.

In many cases we find that when a rail had been made in one length the mouldings were worked in "the solid"

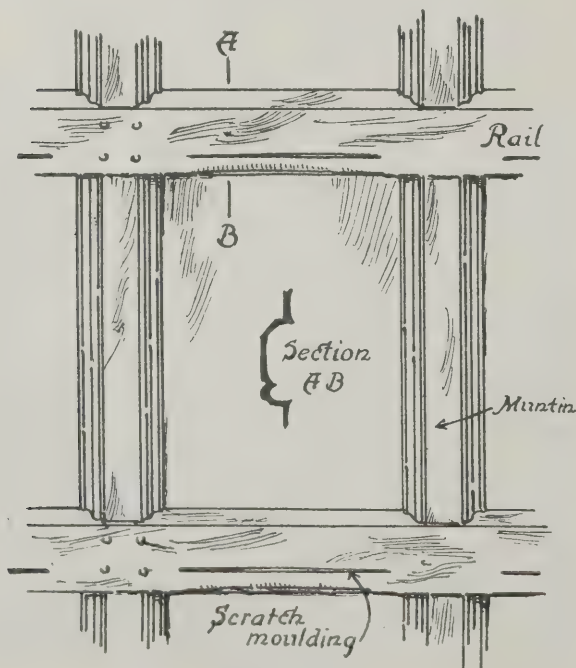


Fig. 3

and "returned on themselves" after the manner of "a mason's joint" (see fig. 2); but this is quite an early form. The manner of typical Tudor panelling is shown in fig. 3. In this illustration it will be seen that the rails are in one piece, splayed for the bottom line of the panel, and what is known as "the scratch" moulding employed for the top. The vertical muntins are in short pieces and worked "out of the solid."

A Jacobean form of bordering for panels is to work the moulding on separate strips of wood and "apply" these to the square edges of the frames. These mouldings were "mitred" at the top corners, and often "died" on to a splay at the bottom (see fig. 4).

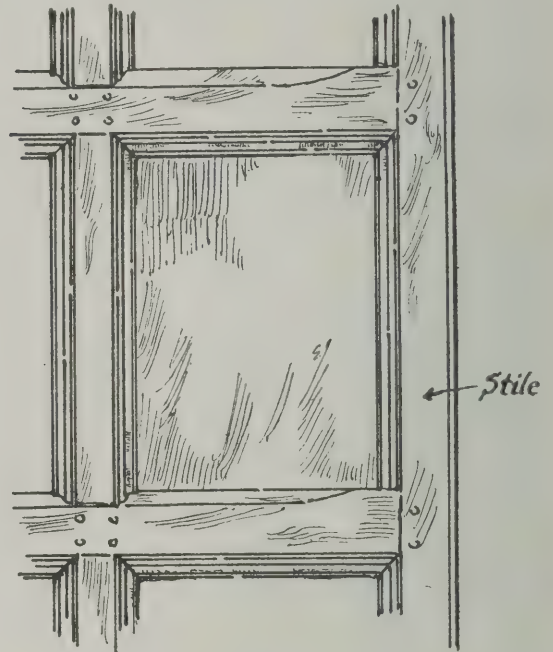


Fig. 4

Theoretically this construction was an advance on, and subsequent to, previous methods, yet so many examples are to be found which run concurrently that it is impossible to assign any date to their introduction—in fact, we find this "mitred and applied" moulding used in Elizabethan work, while examples such as fig. 3 are constantly made in the reign of James I. It must be remembered that London was always in advance of the rest of England, where craftsmen were more inclined to hold to traditional methods of workmanship, and where new fashions took longer to obtain a vogue.

Some of the earliest panels of the Gothic period were painted with patterns or figures, but by Henry VII.'s day the well-known linen-fold panel was the established type. Later on we find many examples of panels decorated with heads in profile surrounded by circles, rather in the Italian manner. The groundwork was sunk, leaving the carving in low relief, a system that was superseded by applying carving to the original surface of the panels.

At the same time the diamond-shaped pattern, so frequently found on old chests, becomes a regular form of decoration.

Monotony of effect was avoided by varying the size and shape of panels, as may be seen in the accompanying illustrations.

Arabesques and strapwork, coloured inlays, all combined to make the woodwork of this period extremely picturesque.

The classic influence, which did not fully develop in France till 100 years after it had permeated Italy, had yet another half-century to run before any purity of style was established in England. Yet in this Jacobean panelling we note the Renaissance feeling which was already filtering through. The arched panels, the tendency to introduce a design in perspective, the oblong panel placed horizontally in the position of the classic frieze, all proclaimed the presence of the New Art.

NOTE.—For detailed accounts of the evolution of panelling, see "Early Renaissance Architecture in England," by J. Alfred Gatch, 30s.



THE ROOSEVELT HOTEL, NEW YORK. GEO. B. POST & SONS, ARCHITECTS.
From the "Architectural Forum," November, 1923.

The Roosevelt Hotel, New York.

Geo. B. Post & Sons, Architects.

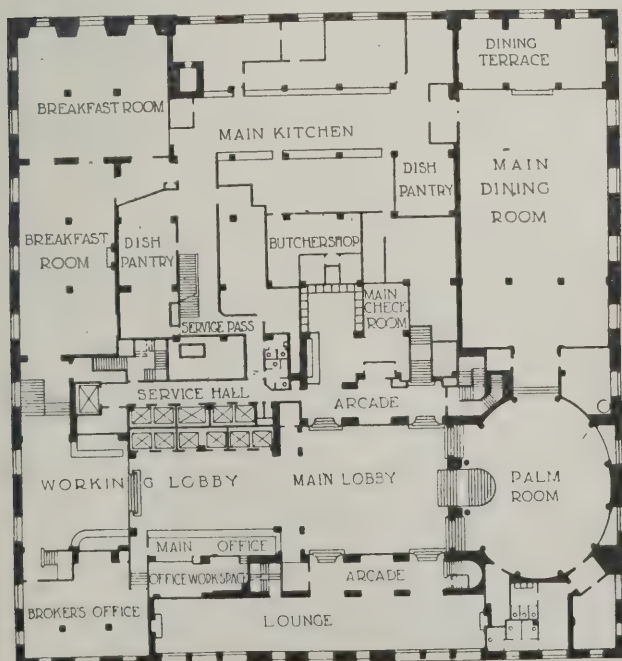
The Roosevelt Hotel is now being built in New York, and both in its design and construction it is unique among large metropolitan hotels. It is located in the Grand Central

zone, and a large portion of it is built over the incoming tracks of the Grand Central Terminal. The handling of foundations and erection of the steel framework without disturbance to the railroad traffic, and the excavation and construction of the extra sub-basements at the front of the building to offset the space occupied by the tracks, constituted engineering problems of considerable magnitude. There will be direct connection by underground passage with the station.

The building is interesting from a plan standpoint in the large proportion of store space that has been incorporated on the ground floor, without any sacrifice in the disposition of the public rooms. The relation of the various public rooms, including the ballroom, to the lobby floor is in accord with modern metropolitan requirements, and, arranged on various levels, the ensemble will present an interior of great distinction and charm.

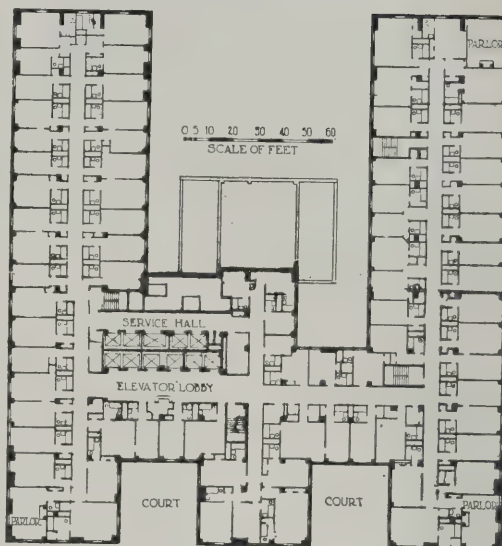
Among the new features incorporated in the Roosevelt is an emergency battery of small rooms for the convenience of applicants for rooms who cannot at the moment be accommodated with permanent rooms. These rooms, numbering 47, will be connected with the Turkish bath equipment on the fourth floor of the hotel. There is also a large dormitory for overnight patrons of the baths.

A second feature is the children's room, to be called the "Teddy Bear Cave." This is placed on the 15th floor and opens on the roof formed by the setback at this level. It will afford both interior and exterior accommodation for children of the guests and visitors. Another feature, introduced through the desire to attain complete service, is a kennel for pet dogs of the guests. It is on the 19th floor, and will have an open-air run on the roof.

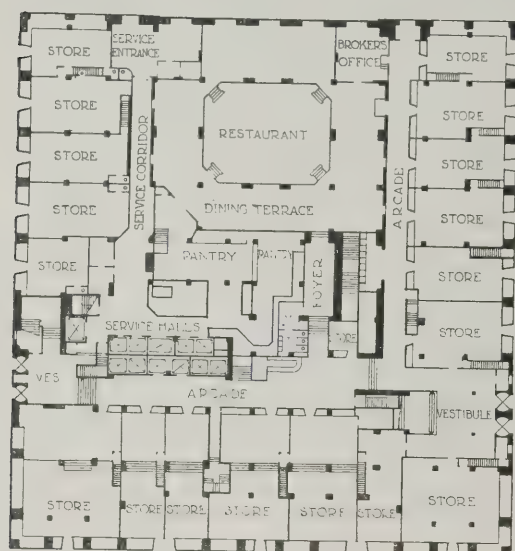




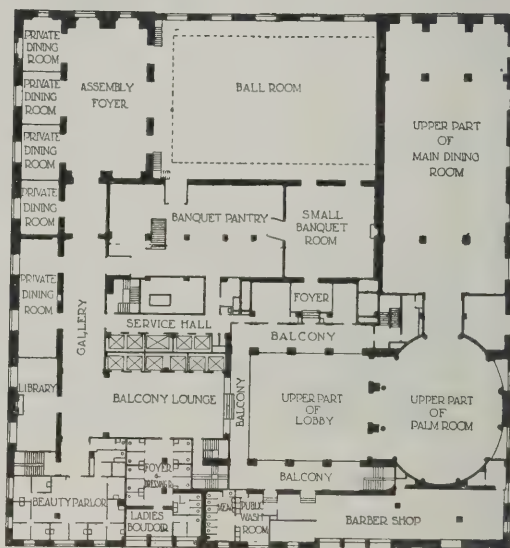
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



TYPICAL FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



MEZZANINE FLOOR PLAN

Still another desirable and perhaps original feature in American hotels is a large number of guest rooms which have the advantage of private roof gardens. These rooms, numbering about 150, are on the two setback floors, and they will be assigned to permanent guests. The roof plots will be separated by lattice work, and each room will have access to its roof space through a French window.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JANUARY 10, 1874.

MR. RUSKIN ON RAPHAEL.

A Liverpool gentleman has received the following letter from Mr. John Ruskin:—"May I ask you, before leaving for Italy (as I hear you intend), to do the very truly good work of trying to keep a little piece of Italy here, or in Liverpool. Yesterday I saw, not for the first time, and with confirmed conviction of its worth, the Raphael Madonna which is at present offered to England, if she chooses to have any old art still among her modern French or English splendours. The price is exorbitant; so are all prices just now. When I was a boy you might have bought a Turner any day for 50*l.*; now you must give 1,000*l.* You might have bought such a Raphael as this—if buyable at all—for perhaps 4,000*l.* or 5,000*l.*; now you are asked 40,000*l.* My own impression is you might get it for less. But what is 40,000*l.* to Liverpool? The picture has no price. There has been no such Raphael in the market in my lifetime, and unless the mob sack Rome there is little chance of there being another in anybody's lifetime. I don't myself care supremely for Raphael; never did. But some people do, I believe, and if Liverpool cares for a Raphael

here is one, intensely characteristic and precious, in good state on the whole, and worth I won't say what in money, but, in art, the whole exhibition of the Royal Academy two years running. I do no more than my duty in letting the merchants of Liverpool know of this picture. I have heard of the generosity of their Mayor about the new gallery, and it occurred to me they might like a Raphael to put at the high end of it. I need not say that I have no interest in the matter; I don't even know to whom the picture belongs. But I do very gravely think it would be well for it to belong to the merchants of Liverpool.—Sir, believe me, most truly yours, JOHN RUSKIN.—Oxford, December 31, 1873."

Royal Academy Exhibitions.

On January 14 the Royal Academy, Burlington House, will open its doors for the private view of the Swedish Art Exhibition. A few days later on another portion of the galleries will accommodate the annual exhibition of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters—to be precise, this exhibition opens on the 19th.

Over 400 pictures are being shown in connection with the Swedish Art Exhibition, and the organisers have limited the scope to what they consider to have been the best period in modern Swedish painting—namely, from 1880–1900. It is the hope of the promoters to organise at an early date an exhibition which will illustrate Swedish present-day painting.

Auders Zorn, the famous etcher, is represented by some portraits of well-known English people, and the brother of the King of Sweden, H.R.H. Prince Eugen, who is no mean exponent, is showing some interesting work in the exhibition, which will be sure to attract considerable attention. He has recently been greatly complimented for some really fine decorative painting in the new Town Hall, Stockholm.



LEEDS CASTLE. From a Drawing by CHARLES G. HARPER.

Leeds Castle.

By Charles G. Harper.

It is still, even in these times, a rare thing for a mediæval castle to be offered "to let." Such an announcement has been made in respect of an ancient fortress which is surely, when we consider its setting in the midst of a moat that is more than one usually understands by a moat, the most picturesque old stronghold in the country. Leeds Castle, which is now offered by the owner, Mr. Wykeham Martin, is situated four miles south of Maidstone, on the Charing and Folkestone road. The castle and the adjacent village of Leeds—which are supposed to give the Dukes of Leeds their title, and not the great city of Leeds in Yorkshire—derive their name from the little stream called the Len, whose waters, anciently dammed and embanked, form that considerable and beautiful lake which is the castle moat. The history of the castle takes us back to 1119, the date of the vaulted cellar that is the oldest part of the building. Much of the structure, particularly that portion of it called the "Gloriette," on the smaller of the two islands in the middle of the lake, is of thirteenth-century date. It is connected with the rest of the pile by an intermediate block, supported on two arches rising from the water. Leeds was in the time of Edward I. a Royal property, and so remained until the reign of Edward VI., when it was granted to Sir Anthony St. Leger of Ulcombe.

Although warlike history does not to any great extent enter into the story of the castle, it was once used as a prison for prisoners of war. This was when, in 1655, the Government of that day secured it for the safeguarding of over six hundred French and Dutch soldiers, who were placed in charge of John Evelyn, the diarist and country gentleman, of Wotton, contemporary with Pepys.

Leeds Castle became the property of the Fairfax family, and the seventh Lord Fairfax, in 1793, bequeathed it to his nephew, the Rev. Denny Martin, who was succeeded by his brother, who in his turn left the castle and its lands to the Wykehams, on the condition that they should add the name of Martin to their own. That portion of the castle seen behind the gatehouse tower was very largely rebuilt by Mr. Fiennes Martin one hundred and three years ago.

As viewed from the road by those motorists who hurry past and catch but evasive and momentary glimpses, Leeds Castle seems the ultimate expression of romance. Here you might think the story of the Sleeping Beauty should most properly be staged. And it looks no less lovely on closer inspection, even though the park itself be unkempt.

"Academy Architecture."

Volume 55, 1923.

In recent issues this publication has moved with the times. The Royal Academy Exhibition somehow does not hold the interest of the profession as it did in former years. Other exhibition promoters have arisen who have a wider scope. Volume 55, like its immediate predecessor, contains no advertisements. Apart from the Royal Academy Exhibition Review, which includes the best that the 1923 Exhibition offered, the volume contains 48 pages devoted to modern business premises, including a number of useful plans, thus covering a much wider scope than in previous years. Besides these, 16 pages of Interior Domestic Architecture are included, which illustrate some of the modern uses of interior timber work by the late Maurice Pocock, Messrs. W. A. Forsyth and H. P. G. Maule. Mr. Baillie Scott is also well represented in this section with his exceptionally interesting work, and 16 pages are devoted to Sculpture, which include a number of illustrations from "Modern British Sculpture," published by "Academy Architecture."

The Garden Architecture section contains several layout suggestions and ornamental features of considerable value. Theatres, cinemas and dance halls are also represented, and the Palais de Danse, Derby, by G. G. Wornum, architect, is given *in extenso*; the majority of the decorations of this dance hall are accomplished by the use of coloured artistic papers, only the features, hands and feet being actually painted.

A further 16 pages are devoted to Cottage Homes, and this section includes some very charming work by Mr. Louis de Soissons at the Welwyn Garden City. The plans and elevations of the Hampstead Borough Council South End Green Housing Scheme, by C. Wontner Smith, architect, are also of interest.

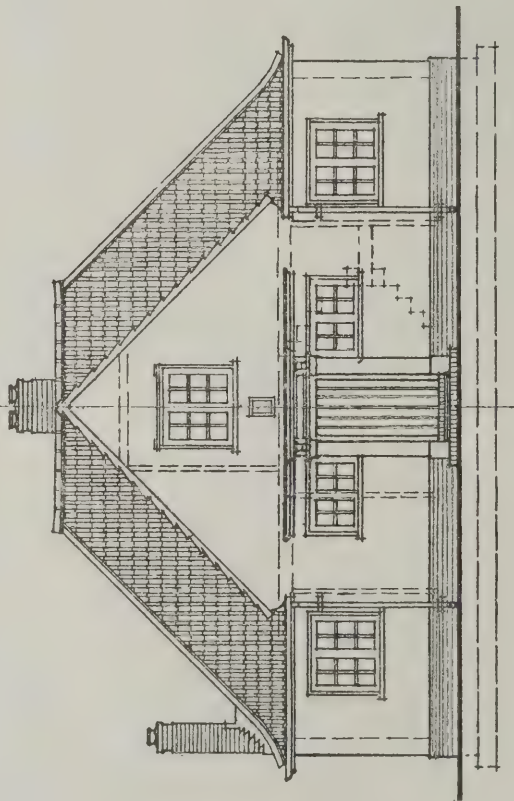
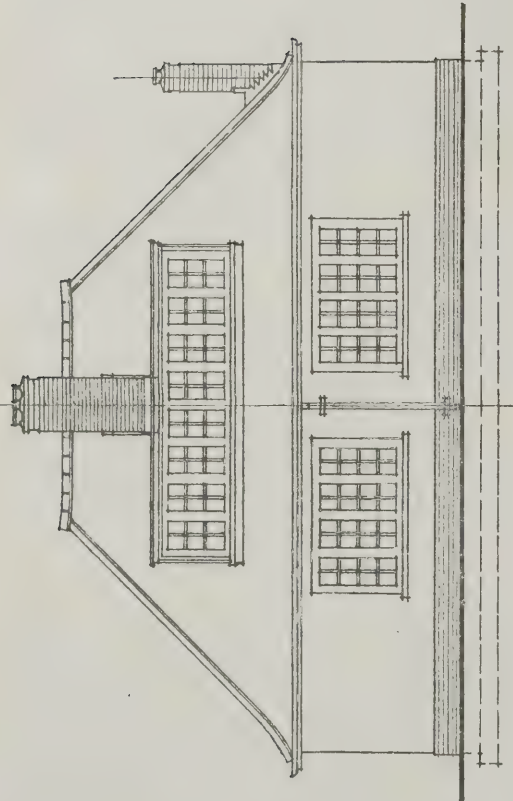
The volume contains 160 pages of illustrations, and the arrangement of the illustrations according to subjects greatly facilitates reference and adds to the value of the publication.

Published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd., 94 High Holborn, W.C.1. 10s. net, cloth; 8s. 6d. paper cover.

Mr. A. E. Caten, architect, has been appointed by the Bristol Education Committee to prepare plans for a school.

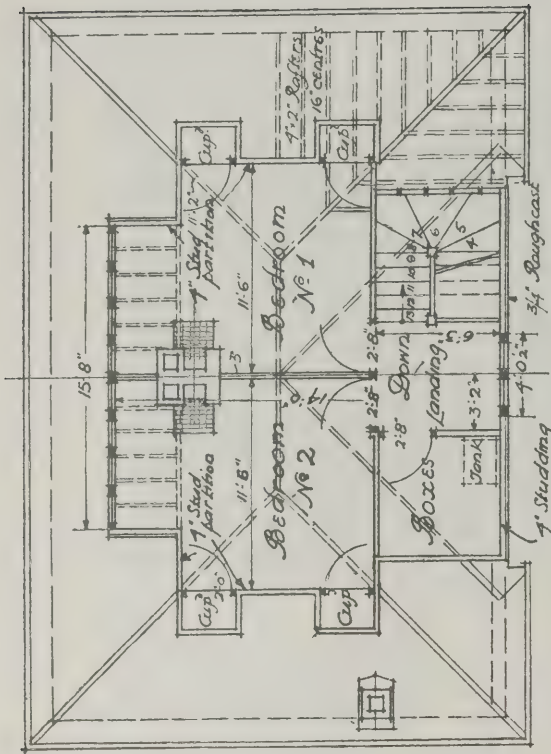
The Board of Education have received the list of alterations and repairs to schools within the authority of the Derbyshire Education Committee. The estimate cost of the proposed works amounts to £84,000. The Committee have under their consideration the purchase of sites for new school buildings at Whaley, Thornes and Findern.

An application is to be made to the Edinburgh Housing Committee on behalf of the training teachers for additional accommodation at Craigmillar Park to take the form of hostels for women students. The cost of two hostels to accommodate sixty students each would, according to estimates, cost £57,000; if three were erected the total cost would approach £84,000.

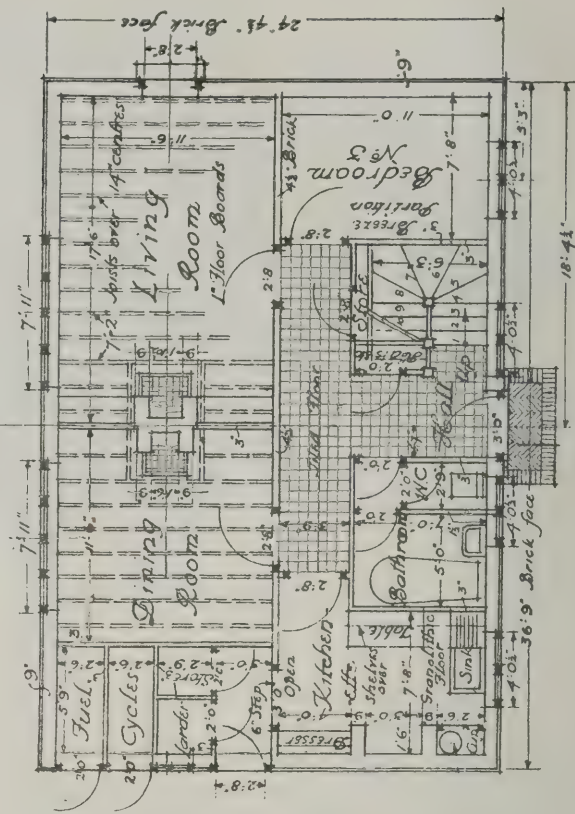


FRONT ELEVATION

Scale of 10 5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 Feet
Scale: Eight Feet to One Inch



ATTIC PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

COTTAGE, FLACKWELL HEATH. W. STANLEY GRICE, Architect.

Housing.

Ireland.

The Belfast Corporation have passed the plans for 37 houses.

The Urban District Council of Benfieldside has passed the plans submitted by the Consett Iron Co. On area No. 1 81 houses of type "C," 75 houses of the same type, and 10 type "B" houses, and 10 type "A" houses in the Blackfine area. On the Highgate estate 10 type "B" and 12 type "A" houses.

A Housing Bill is to be introduced by the Government of the Irish Free State. The Government further are prepared to make a grant of £250,000 towards the erection of new houses, and £50,000 towards the reconditioning of existing premises.

The actual average building cost for houses of 3, 4, and 5 rooms works out at £335, £460, and £585 respectively, exclusive of the cost of sites.

In making the offer of a grant the Government stipulate that suitable reductions shall be made in the present cost of building. Such reductions, it is stated in certain quarters, can be attained if the spirit of co-operation is shown between builders, builders' providers and employees in the building trades. We here in the United Kingdom would also like to see this spirit of co-operation. Each of the three mentioned above blames the other for the high cost, and fundamentally the high rate of wages paid and the small output for these wages is the real cause of the high costs. If employees in all branches of industry would make efforts to increase the output our troubles would soon be at an end.

Most of the houses needed to-day are for the accommodation of the working classes. There must exist a very poor feeling of comradeship amongst the working classes if the plumber and carpenter can view without regret the misery of the lacemaker who cannot find a home for his wife and children because none exists.

The conditions under which the Free State Government will make money grants are as follows:—

"(a) The grants to be payable to private persons building or reconstructing houses during one year from date of passing of the Measure in any part, Rural or Urban, of the Saorstát. (Local authorities not to participate in the grant.)

PREScribed PLANS.

"(b) The houses to accord generally with prescribed plans, within limits of internal size on all floors of 500 to 960 sq. ft., and may contain 3, 4, or 5 rooms.

"(c.) The Government Grant for each house to be:—

"For a 3-roomed house, £60 in towns, £50 in rural districts.

"For a 4-roomed house, £80 in towns, £70 in rural districts.

"For a 5-roomed house, £100 in towns, £90 in rural districts.

"(d) The site, plan, and construction of the dwellings would be subject to the approval of the Minister for Local Government, who would have power to make regulations for the administration of the provisions of the Act.

"(e) Payment of the grant would be made on completion of each house (or possibly in instalments) on the certificate of a technical officer of the Ministry.

"(f) Any Local Authority, with the consent of the Minister for Local Government, would be empowered to supplement the Government Grant in either of the following ways:—

"1. A grant not exceeding the appropriate Government Grant.

"2. A loan of twice that amount.

"3. A free site.

"4. Works of development upon building sites.

"(g) Any Local Authority, with like consent, may make graduated remissions of local rates over 19 years—i.e., 95 per cent. in the first year, 90 per cent. in the second year, and so on by 5 per cent. less each year until, in the twentieth year, full local rates are payable."

South and West of England.

In our list of contracts open particulars will be found of the development of Downham Housing estate. The London County Council invite tenders. Mention is made of 2,000 houses, so the proposed scheme is worthy of attention and consideration by all those who enter for large housing contracts.

Eventually 50 families will find accommodation in the old Dunmow workhouse, which was purchased by Mr. Joseph Day, of Bishop Stortford for the purposes of conversion into homes for families seeking houses.

Invitations have been issued to contractors and specialists in connection with the erection of 12 type "B3" houses, Smith

House Lane, Brighthouse. Those wishing to participate in the work should send their names to Mr. P. T. Grove, town clerk, Brighthouse, who will send them the necessary particulars.

Those wishing to undertake part of the work of erecting 52 pairs of semi-detached houses on the Shuttleworth Hall Estate, Bradford, should send their names to Mr. Wm. Illingworth, architect, 15 Sunbridge Road, Bradford.

Invitation for tenders have been issued for the erection of 15 pairs of parlour cottages (5 different types) on a site near the Whittingham Mental Hospital and also for the construction of 450 lineal yards of roads, footpaths, fencing and drains. Full particulars may be obtained from Mr. E. J. Andrew, 33 Winkley Square, Preston, on the payment of a deposit of one guinea. Eight houses are to be erected in Balfour Street, two pairs of houses in Wagon Lane, 10 houses at Ferncliffe, two at Harden Bingley.

In an article published recently in the "Birmingham Dispatch," under the title "Why you have no Home," the writer goes right down to the root cause of the whole housing trouble. If an individual has, through self denial and careful living, saved a little capital, which he must invest so as to derive the benefit of his care, he naturally seeks an investment which will give him a fair return. House building and house ownership for letting purposes does not offer even a fair return for invested money. The restrictions under which a landlord has to work out his possible returns on invested capital are all in favour of the tenant. Unless these restrictions are removed, the necessary private capital will never flow into this class of investment, and houses will not be built. Corporations and councils and Government departments cannot displace private enterprise for all time, or even for any length of time. The remedy suggested in the article we give in the actual words of the writer:

"Housing legislation has proved a fiasco. Those who devised it meant well, but have only accomplished ill. No building that will benefit the poor or middle class tenant will be undertaken till all restrictions have been swept away.

"Then houses will spring up like mushrooms. Dwellings big and little, flats and tenements, garden cities and new townships will appear as if by magic. Plentitude will inspire competition, rents will gradually drop, the house-hunter, instead of being scorned, will be sought after.

"The Government that adopts this view of the matter, and legislates accordingly, will solve the housing problem—within six months."

Whilst we agree that such a policy is the only one, we are inclined to think six months is too short a period of time.

General News.

South and West of England.

The Great Western Railway Co. recently published a very encouraging report of development work which will find employment for many thousands and give an additional fillip to our home trades. £10,000,000 is to be spent. Some truly surprising sums of money have appeared recently in connection with development schemes by our railway companies, and whilst we do not wish to cavil at the good fortune that will now fall to some of our industries, we cannot well resist the reflective thought in our minds as to where this money has been during these recent years of hardship. The present programme includes the reconstruction of coal-pitting appliances at South Wales Docks; new tunnel at Colwell, 4,800 feet long, under the Malvern Hills; doubling of line between Welshpool and Forden; new accommodation for milk traffic at Paddington; new locomotive depot at Llanelli; new engine shop at Cardiff; road bridge under the railway at Ashley Hill, Bristol; extensive improvements at the Walsall Street Goods Depot, Wolverhampton; electrification of a large number of cranes in the Birmingham district; new power house and improved pumping arrangements at Cardiff Docks; new wharf at Port Talbot. In addition to these works, £497,000 is to be spent on the reconstruction of Newport High Street station; £264,000 will be the cost of the works to be undertaken at High Street station at Swansea; Temple Meads goods station is to be improved at a cost of £556,450; Newton Abbot station reconstructed at a cost of £247,100; a new line is to be constructed from Wolverhampton to Kingswinford, and additional sidings for coal shipment at Newport, Mon., Rogerstone, Cardiff, and Barry are to be built at a cost of half a million sterling. At Caerphilly a new locomotive repair depot is to be erected at an estimated cost of

£174,000. The improvements to be effected at Oswestry, Aberystwyth and Barmouth stations will cost the company £180,000. A matter which will interest a very wide circle, and for which the company is to be congratulated, is their willingness to advance large sums on easy terms to enable members of their staff to build houses by means of utility societies formed amongst themselves. 1,000 houses are to be erected in this way in London alone.

The London General Omnibus Company are very busy erecting garages. They hope by midsummer to have 44 such buildings finished in London and the suburbs. After seeing the Empire Exhibition at Wembley, visitors will want to see all parts of London and the company have some very charming routes to Dorking, Richmond, Hampton Court, etc., which will undoubtedly be much in vogue.

Much cleaning and redecorating work is expected to be undertaken by hotels, private hotels, and boarding houses in London and district, so as to make a good impression on the abnormal flow of visitors which are expected in connection with the Wembley Empire Exhibition. Americans are sure to come over in great numbers and of course all parts of the Empire will be well represented. Our articles on wood panelling which start in this issue should be of considerable interest. Mr. Hubbard, architect, is recognised as having a very sound knowledge on all matters connected with Period work.

Strong public opinion supports the Hendon District Council in its vigorous protest against the scheme of arterial roads proposed by the Ministry of Transport. The chief cause for complaint is the fact that about 100 houses, some of recent date, will need to be demolished to make room for the road scheme. Surely the demolition of 100 houses should need some very vital reason before being undertaken.

Tenders are shortly to be invited in connection with the erection of a block of offices in Artillery Row, Westminster.

A new oil depot is to be erected by the Shell Company at Hamble. Some £150,000-£200,000 is to be spent on the installation.

A new warehouse is to be built on the site of St. Olave's Church, Duke Street, London Bridge; the site has been sold for £10,000.

Wales.

Official sanction has been received from the Board of Education by the governors of the Amman Valley County School, for the erection of a new school at Ammanford.

The Monmouthshire Education Committee contemplate the erection of a number of schools at Morkham and Ynysddu, and a Domestic Art centre at Georgetown, Tredegar.

The Glamorganshire County Council proposes to build during 1924-25 a new school at a total cost of half a million sterling. Thirty-three new elementary schools are provided for in the programme at a total expenditure of just over half the estimated value of the whole building schemes.

A technical school at Barry, a new metallurgical laboratory at Port Talbot, mining and engineering laboratories at Gowerton, Neath, Bridgend and Ystrad Mynach, each to cost about £9,000.

Five secondary schools, each needing an outlay of between fifteen and sixteen thousand pounds at Bargoed, Grovesand, Pontyclun, Pyle, and Whitechurch.

Trade Notes.

Boyle's latest patent "Air-Pump" ventilators have been applied to Bournemouth Gas Works, Poole, Dorset. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Gas Grates.

We welcome the great strides that have been made by gas grate manufacturers to bring their designs to such a standard of taste and refinement as to remove for ever the old-time prejudice against the gas grate. In the past the difficulty of applying the grates produced to period and tasteful interiors has undoubtedly existed. But to-day Messrs. John Wright & Co., Queen Victoria Street, London (Radiation, Ltd., Proprietors), have paid commendable care and time on the study of how to produce gas grates which will fit into the general scheme of things in such a manner as to form a part of the design and enhance the same rather than in any way detract. It is very helpful to be able to feel that a range of designs is at the disposal of the profession which will enable members to view the gas grate as a beautifying feature in their schemes, and not as a feature that has to be tolerated because of its utilitarian benefits. It is the sequence of most things in our lives that has followed the gas grate. First the advantages of the invention sufficed; this was followed by a multitude of

improvements in the invention itself, until the last word had been spoken. Manufacturers then found that the public would not be satisfied with efficiency alone, and to-day taste and refinement in the grate which holds the efficient invention has received the attention of Messrs. John Wright & Co. in perhaps a more pronounced degree. The difficulty of displaying in an effective manner the designs which this firm have recently produced has been very well overcome in their well-known premises at Nos. 19-21 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. The ground floor area has been planned to represent a reception room, and this has been decorated with Austrian oak wall panelling, rich in quality but quiet in tone and style. Whilst the surroundings of each gas grate are in keeping with the style of the grate itself, one can easily realise that these patterns, which are all of a very simple character, will easily lend themselves to many different decorative schemes to suit the unlimited differences in the public taste. Anything which in itself is in good style will never obtrude in any decorative scheme.

First Annual Social of the Flavel Training School.

By invitation of the founder of the above school, Mr. Percival Flavel, J.P., over one hundred students and youths, employed in the Foundry, enjoyed a pleasant evening at the Flavel Social Club, 15 The Parade, Leamington, on Friday, December 28. Following a substantial repast the chair was taken by Mr. Flavel, whose appearance was greeted with hearty cheers. Introducing the chairman to the students, Mr. W. E. Pengelly, the late Head of the Weston Training School, gave a short address, in which he impressed upon them the fine opportunity open for making a success of life when they reached manhood. Mr. Pengelly then asked Mr. Flavel to address the lads, and the chairman opened his remarks by saying how delighted he was to welcome them upon such an occasion. Mr. Flavel then proceeded to explain the details of his scheme in founding the Training School, and very clearly pointed out the way for the students to obtain the full advantages offered. He touched particularly upon the recreation side of the scheme, pointing out that it should not be looked on merely as a play, but a time in which to re-create the energy expended in the school and in the training foundry. He earnestly appealed to all the students to carefully assimilate the instruction given, and so fit themselves to become really skilled tradesmen and useful citizens. The Superintendent of the Training School (Mr. F. P. Carr) read the report, and on the students' behalf thanked Mr. Flavel for all that he had done for them, and the Foundry Instructor (Mr. W. Plummer) also addressed the lads. Mr. Flavel then presented the prizes that he had offered, and the winners were called up to receive the very useful sets of moulding tools, as well as money grants to the winners of the Classes Competition.

After the prize distribution the "Sparks Concert Party" entertained the lads with their varied and amusing programme, receiving due appreciation in the usual vociferous manner. The social terminated at 10.30, and before the students went home hearty cheers were given for the chairman and to the ladies and gentlemen who had kindly waited upon the boys during the evening. The names of the prize winners in Classes A and B Competitions were:—W. Akers, A. Bishop, A. Boneham, A. Hitchcock, L. Jenkins, and D. Mason.

Saundevan.

An Infallible Flame Resistant, as supplied to the War Office, Admiralty, Air Force and London County Council.

The war brought out many wonderful inventions. Every move by the enemy had to be countered either by a protective or aggressive movement. When the "Flamenwerfers" or Flame Throwers were first used against our troops, inventors had to seek a protective element to guard our men against the effects of these dreadful instruments of war. A formula named Saundevan fulfilled every need, and passed the severest tests made by the Government Research Department.

The British Empire Exhibition organisers insist that all stands must be treated with a fireproof preparation, and for this purpose Saundevan is recommended.

The preparation is in liquid form and can be painted on woodwork, etc., is equally effective for either internal or external purposes, and dries in a very short space of time. A stain can be added without any detrimental effect. Carpets, and, in fact, all materials for decorative or wearing purposes can be treated and thus rendered fireproof without destroying their original colours or texture.

Saundevan is supplied in jars, and should be mixed with water in the proportion of four parts water to one of Saundevan. Prices will be quoted on application to Shinelite, Ltd., 2, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2, sole selling agents.

CONTENTS.

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Leasehold Enfranchisement.

The report on the subject of Leasehold Enfranchisement issued by the Surveyors' Institution is—as we should expect—an interesting and careful pronouncement of opinion. But in our view it is too sweeping in its summing up against the case which has been urged in favour of leasehold enfranchisement. We are entirely in agreement with those who would safeguard rights of private property, but also believe that these can be maintained while at the same time we make it far easier to carry out great schemes of improvement.

The Surveyors' Institution report urges that the principle of leasehold enfranchisement would create more small owners, and that the individual holder of property is less likely to look at the improvement of a district in a broad light than the owners of a large estate would, and that the small owner would be more likely to stand out for exorbitant compensation than larger property holders. To a great extent this is true, but it is a difficulty that can be dealt with in another manner. If the country was divided into a limited number of great estates, we could conceive that it would be possible to deal with the owners on broad lines with regard to improvements, but such is far from being the case. Great estates are sandwiched in between small freehold owners, and the tendency, no doubt, is for the great estates to be broken up. Improvement schemes are not limited by the boundaries of an estate. What is needed is power to enable local authorities to deal freely with improvement schemes irrespective of ownership and without the fear of having to pay unreasonable compensation.

We may assume that in a district of London a public authority comes to the conclusion that a new street should be made. It should in our view be able to carry out this improvement without special legislation and to acquire any property it wants on a uniform and fair basis of compensation. If the improvement sweeps away a new or costly building the lease of which has a long unexpired term, the compensation would be larger, but the basis on which it is assessed should be clear and easily applied. If this were so, it would not in the least matter whether the sites required belonged to a large or a small freeholder. Any comprehensive improvement could, in either case, be equally easily effected.

The report urges that the leasehold system tends to raise standards of building by its insistence on maintenance clauses, but, on the other hand, it may be urged with some reason that the conditions enforced on some of the great estates are unreasonably stringent and are detrimental to the full use and development of property. This is more the case now than in the past, because we have seen many changes and are likely to see more in the character of whole districts and the uses to which they are put. We cannot foresee what the future trend is likely to be, but we may feel sure that many of the costly buildings which are put up on certain sites will before the end of the terms of the leases be used for other purposes than those intended by the first tenants.

The old Regent Street, for example, was comparatively cheaply built, though it lasted for the length of the leases ; but when it became a question of rebuilding it had to come down, not because the buildings could not have been occupied longer, but because conditions had changed. The new leases do not run for a century, but at the end of the term can anyone say what will be wanted in the district? And yet a standard of building is imposed which is productive of structures which would last for several hundreds of years.

We are not arguing in favour of piecemeal design or of shoddy construction, and if the local authorities had suitable powers they could protect us from both as well as the owners of great estates could, while we would prefer to see the creation of a much larger number of individual freeholders.

We believe such an increase is compatible with order and with proper development, and think it would operate in bringing about a greater respect for property than the present system does. We cannot increase the security of ownership without increasing the number of owners, and it is increasing security that will operate for the greatest good of the whole community.

The memorandum states that the holder of the latter period of a long lease is seldom the original owner who has spent money on building, but this does not seem to be pertinent to the question. A man may leave property to a relation or sell it, but whether left or sold the original leaseholder has exercised his rights, and the existing owner is therefore in the position of the man who has originally built.

The report refers to the question of dilapidations on the termination of a lease and the vexed question of that form of compensation when a building has to come down at the end of a lease. Here, again, we should like to see the leaseholder protected. We believe that it would be fair, irrespective of the terms of leases, to make the question of dilapidations depend on whether, in the opinion of an agreed expert, the carrying out of the terms of the lease would enable the freeholder to get a better rent than he otherwise would do. If this could not be proved, we think that the tenant should not be called upon to pay any sum in respect to dilapidations. At present the enforcement of the law in many cases when the use to which a building can be put has altered results, not as was intended, to giving property a new lease of life, but as a means to securing for the freeholder a money fine. We have known many cases where the freeholder has been much annoyed by the tenant's determination to abide by the strict terms of a lease rather than to give monetary compensation.

It is quite true, as the memorandum states, that ground rents have formed a useful and secure investment, but the fact that they have done so is because of the sense of the security of property. Those who were willing to invest money in land or building would find equal opportunities were ground rents non-existent. Nor need we assume if leasehold

enfranchisement comes that it would be adopted universally; the leasehold system would still continue, but the number of freeholders would be increased, which is desirable.

The cases of divided ownership of parts of a building which are mentioned in the report seem to admit of a simple solution. It seems to us feasible and right that the leaseholder of an entire building should be able to secure the freehold on making a proper payment, but the leaseholder of part of it has not a definite entity which can be deducted and isolated from the whole of which it forms a part. He is in the position of a man who has not the necessary capital to conclude a deal. It might be reasonable, to use an illustration, to force

a man to sell a sheep, but it would be entirely unreasonable to force him to cut a leg of mutton from it and to sell that separately.

If, as the report urges, leasehold enfranchisement is not in the interest of either landlord or tenant, we may feel sure that it would not be widely exercised; but if, on the other hand, as we believe, it is, it would be utilised by many. It would serve both to protect the tenant from an unreasonable landlord and to give a good landlord an argument he could use with an unreasonable tenant. In any case, it seems to us little harm could ensue provided that any measure of enfranchisement paid due regard to the freeholders' just claims for adequate compensation.

Our Illustrations.

THE ODDFELLOWS CLUB, COVENTRY. From the A.A. Sketch Book.

A MODEL OF BOURNVILLE CHURCH. W. A. HARVEY & H. G. WICKS, Architects.

MEMORIAL PAVILION AT HADLEY WOOD. S. W. CRANFIELD & H. S. EAST, Architects.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS. By JAMES BALLANTYNE, F.S.A.

Notes and Comments.

The Utility of the Millionaire.

There has been much comment and notice of the immense wealth accumulated by Mr. Ford, which is said to amount to £60,000 a day, and may grow to double that sum in the course of the next ten years. Doubtless such colossal figures make one's mouth water, and eager reformers in every country feel that it would be excellent if they could obtain control of such enormous sums by taxation or other means.

But Mr. Ford's fortune has been amassed in two ways; first, by his business ability, and secondly, because instead of spending a large part of his income the money goes to increase the capital employed in business, with the result that he can manufacture motors more cheaply and sell them at less profit than his competitors, the effect being to bring motors within the means of comparatively poor people, while at the same time affording an enormous amount of employment to workers. Both of these results are in the direction of public services to the community. As it is quite clear that no man other than an imperial maniac like Nero could spend more than a fraction of such an income as Mr. Ford makes, and that if he spent it as Nero might have done he would no longer be the astute, hard-working business organiser he is, it is difficult for us to see why the accumulation of such fortunes should be objected to except by a comparatively small number of motor car makers who are naturally annoyed to see Mr. Ford content with profits which on their smaller output would be quite insufficient. If any State could manage business as successfully as Mr. Ford does we should have good reason to become Socialists, but State enterprise is not remarkable for its success, and has hitherto led to increased, and not decreased, demands on the public purse. The Socialist party are in the position of children who pull a watch to pieces but, confronted with the difficulty of putting it together again, would pass on to another act of destruction.

Unemployment Grants Committee.

Certain modifications have been made in the terms on which State assistance may be granted by the Unemployment Grants Committee to public utility companies putting in hand works which would not at present be undertaken but for the need for relieving unemployment.

The terms of assistance were published in full in the public Press in October last.

The principal alteration is in Clause (5), which now reads as follows:—

"(5) Assistance will be limited to a maximum of 50 per cent. of interest at an approved rate on the expenditure, as and when incurred, whether out of capital raised for the purpose or out of existing funds or out of current revenue. Grant will be made for a period of years which will be dependent mainly on the extent to which the work is being accelerated, and the date at which the works when completed are likely to be reasonably remunerative."

In cases where the period of assistance does not exceed seven years, the Committee may at their discretion commute, if so desired, the annual interest payments by a single lump sum grant representing the present value of the whole of the interest payments.

It would be interesting to find out how much the various schemes for dealing with unemployment tended to produce it by making people disinclined to do the work they could obtain if nothing else were open to them.

A False Move.

The Council of Gateshead have refused the application of private builders for permission to purchase sites on the Corporation estate of Carr's Hill. It was asked whether it mattered who built houses as long as the regulations laid down were complied with. The Corporation has built 232 houses and proposes to build another 100. It seems to us if houses are required at Gateshead that the Corporation are acting both unwisely and unjustly in refusing the application of those who will provide them. We suppose that this attitude is common to many councils which are dominated by the Labour interest, and it tends to show that what that party is really anxious to do is not to provide houses but to discourage private enterprise. But if this is so the result will be to create a reaction which will sweep Labour members from every representative body in the community and win the working classes over to the conviction that it is better to support those who work for the community rather than for those who wish to subvert and destroy our institutions which are the outcome of hundreds of years experience and effort.

The Office of Works.

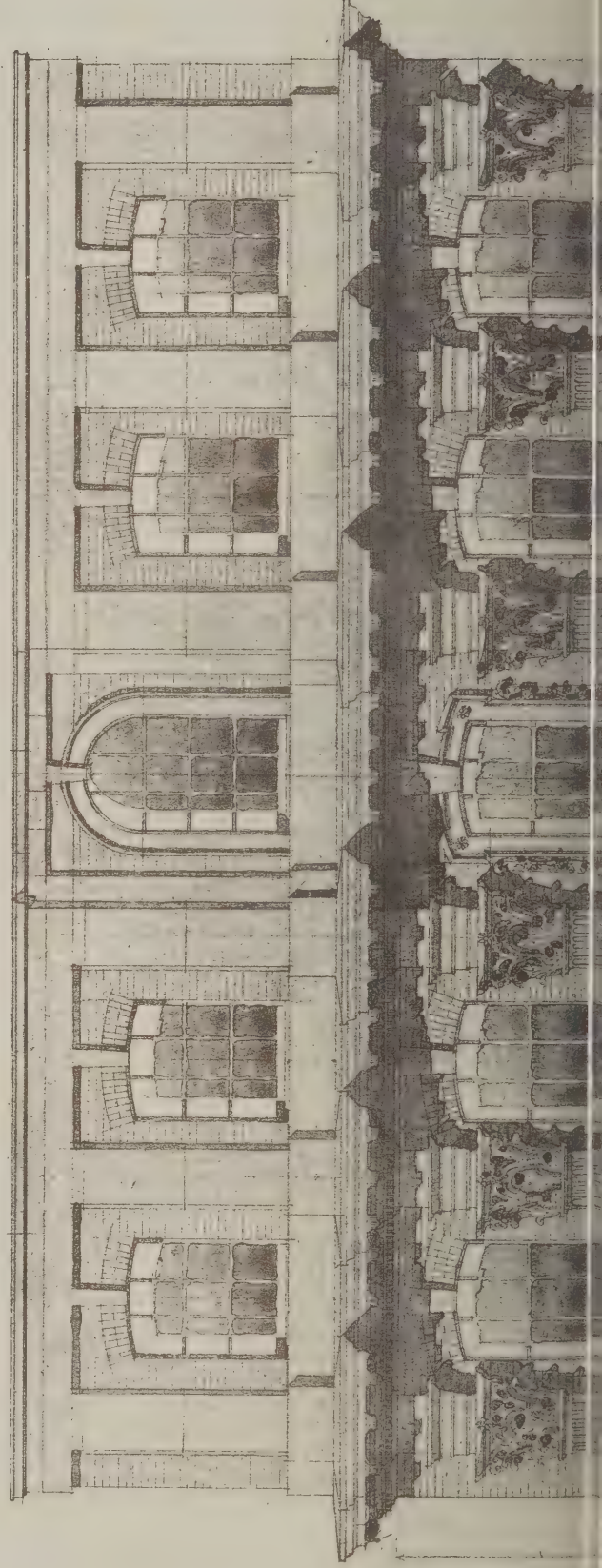
The letter sent us by Mr. William Woodward and given in our issue of the 4th is a useful reminder of the extent of the operations of the Office of Works. At different

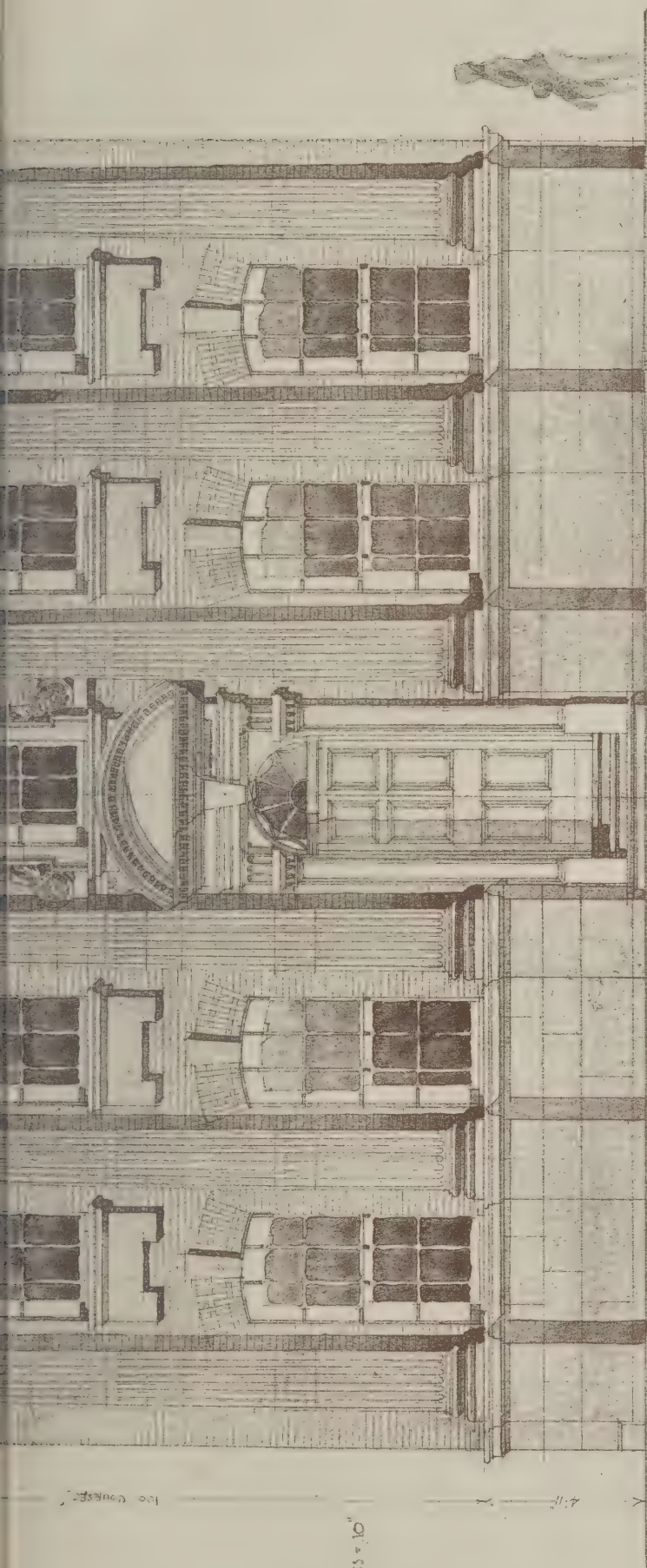
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THE ARCHITECT, JANUARY 18th, 1924.

THE ODDFELLOWS CLUB
COVENTRY · WARWICKS:

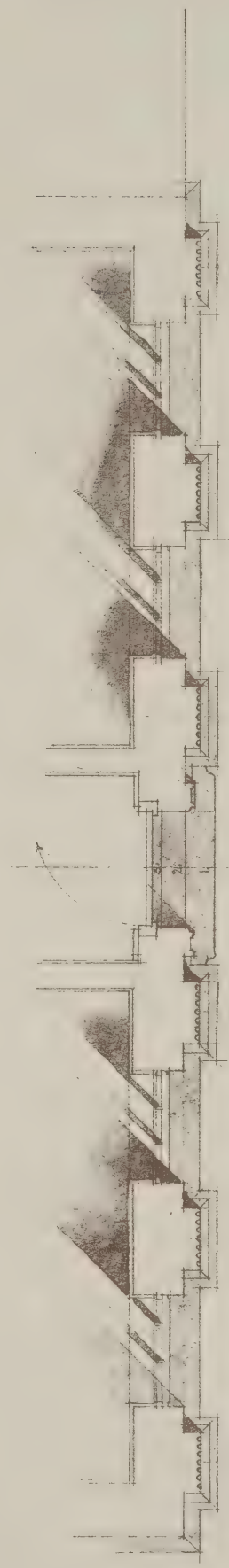
DETAIL OF FACADE · SCALE $\frac{1}{4}$ " = 1'0"





NOTE:
4 COURSES = 10'

ELEVATION



11' 10 3/4" x 3' 8"

PLAN

MEASURED & PLOTTED ON THE SPOT
H. St. J. Harrison

"INK PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO LTD LONDON E.C.3

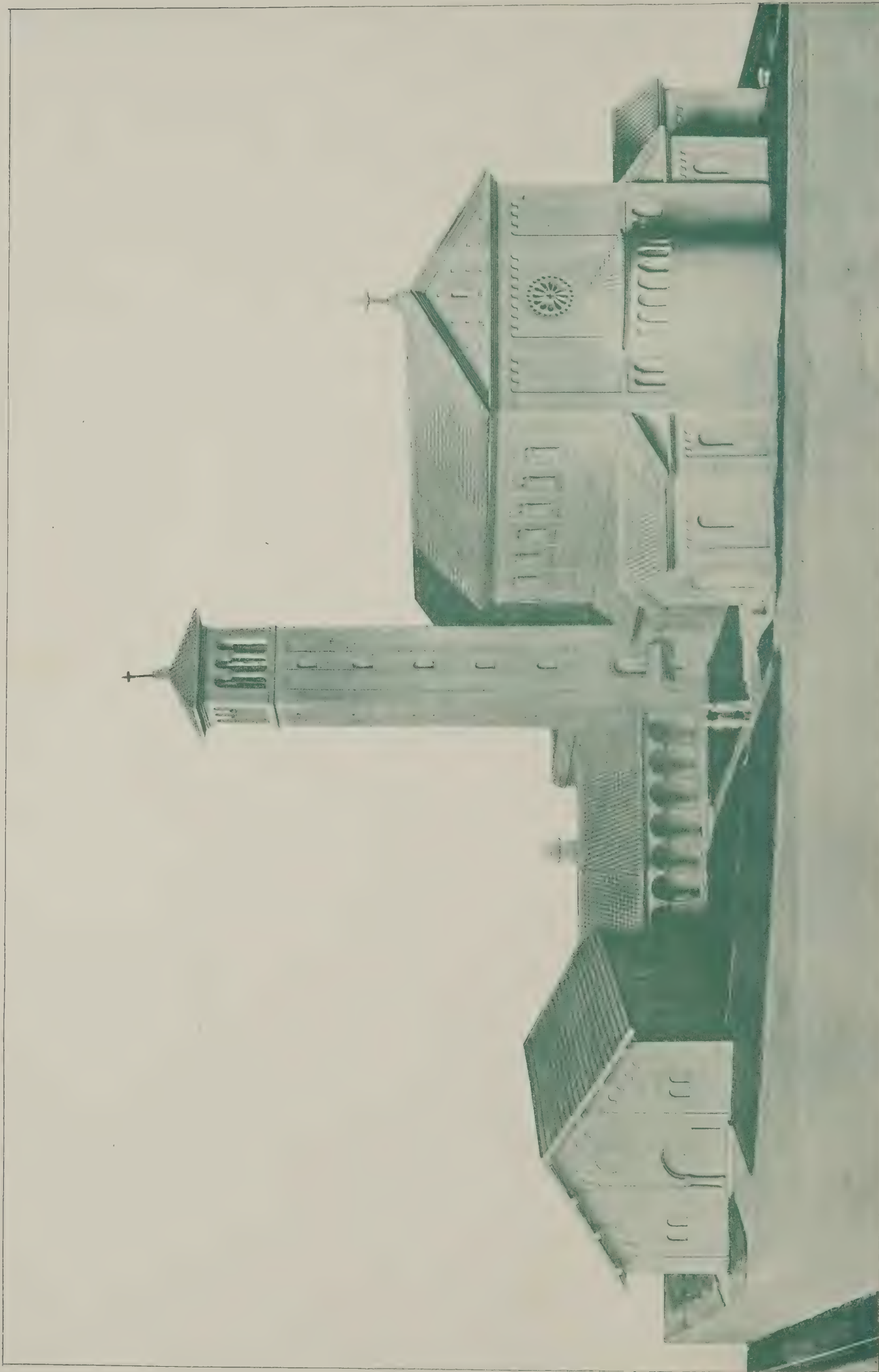
THE ODDFELLOWS CLUB, COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE.

MEASURED AND DRAWN BY H. ST. J. HARRISON.

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A MODEL OF BOURNVILLE CHURCH.

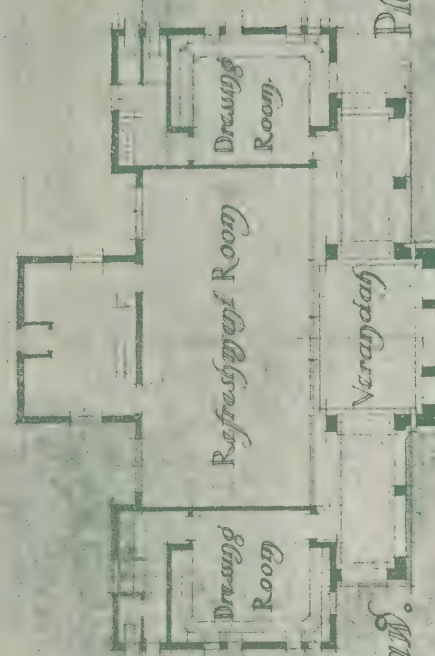
MEMORIAL PAVILION

at HADLEY WOOD

for Mr Charles Maud.

FAREY.
DEL 1922

S.W. Cranfield F.R.I.B.A. and H.S. East A.R.I.B.A. Joint Architects.



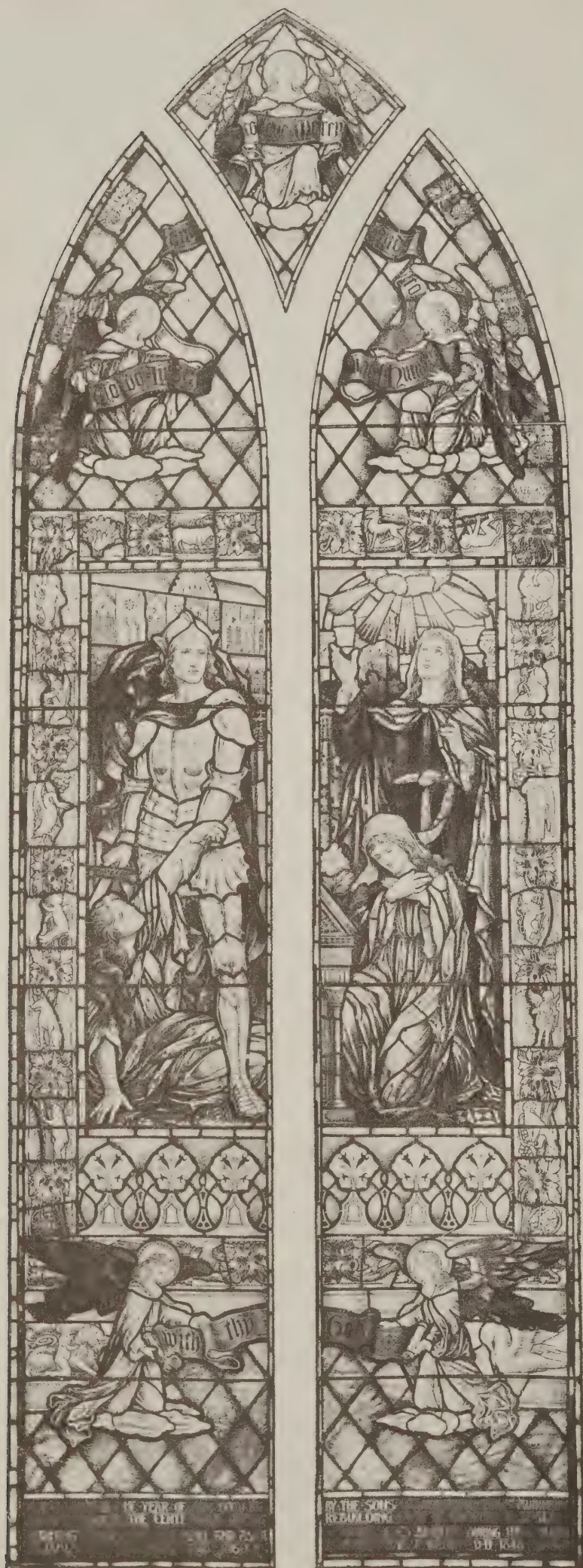
MEMORIAL PAVILION AT HADLEY WOOD.

S. W. CRANFIELD AND H. S. EAST, ARCHITECTS.

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times in past years many objections have been raised to the persistent attempts made to convert the Office of Works into a general building department with a large scope, covering housing and public buildings, but Mr. Woodward suggests that their functions in the more limited field of the upkeep of historical buildings and public places need restriction, and on the face of his letter we think he makes out his case. It does seem unnecessary that as much as £50,000 should have been expended in removing the War huts in St. James's Park and in covering the bed of the lake with heavy reinforced concrete. As to the roof of Westminster Hall, the repairs to which cost £150,000, and which Mr. Woodward says could have been made good without the introduction of steel, we are not able to express an opinion. It is quite probable that the general approval given of this work might not on analysis prove to be justified. It would seem to us that as the pre-war cost of the department in 1913 was £148,000 and its cost in 1923 £580,000, that it would be difficult to make out a good case for so enormous an increased expenditure; but whether much of the work done in connection with historical monuments could with advantage be placed in private hands we do not know. The increase of and increased cost of officials is one of the evils of the age, and we should not be surprised if Mr. Woodward were not completely justified in his strictures.

The Principles and Practice of Estimating.

Mr. T. Sumner Smith read a careful and elaborate paper on the above subject before the Manchester Branch of the Institute of Builders, in the course of which he referred to the necessity of examination and care, since very great mistakes might be made unless every process was analysed. He defined the principal methods of estimating as being two: First, pricing from correctly ascertained data of like kind; secondly, pricing from data of like kind confirmed and checked by empirical methods confirmed and checked by experience. Of the two the first was infinitely preferable where practicable, as the second depended on data which he could not absolutely rely upon, and experience which was no certain guide to accuracy. Fortunately, architects seldom have to make out any but approximate estimates and in preparing these can usually rely on the invaluable help of good quantity surveyors. A quantity surveyor of wide experience is usually able to use data of similar buildings recently tendered for or erected and is readily able to add to or subtract from such data the additional or lessened cost of items which occur in, or are omitted from, the cost of the building used for purposes of comparison. There is now little excuse for failures to arrive at the approximate cost of buildings, the failures being usually the result of carelessness, if they are not directly occasioned by convenient optimism, of which the practical outcome is usually most unpleasant.

New President of the Royal Scottish Academy.

Mr. G. Washington Browne has been unanimously elected President of the Royal Scottish Academy. He is the first architect to receive the honour, and we most heartily congratulate him. His work is well known to all members of the profession. He was born in Glasgow; he gained the Pugin Travelling Studentship, being the first Scotsman to gain this coveted prize. He became on his return to Scotland a partner to Dr. Rowand Anderson, and later carried out a number of designs for public buildings, including which are the Edinburgh Public Library, the Edinburgh Sick Children's Hospital, and Messrs. Redfern's buildings in Princes Street. He joined Mr. Dick Peddie in a partnership, and in association with him has carried on a considerable practice in insurance offices and bank buildings. Amongst other works for which Mr. Browne is responsible are the Scottish National Memorial to King Edward and the Gordon Highlanders War Memorial at Keith. He was elected an Associate to the Royal Scottish Academy in 1892, and full Academician in 1902.

With Sir Aston Webb, architect, as President of the Royal Academy of Arts, London, and Mr. G. Washington Browne, architect, President of the Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, the profession has indeed been honoured. But whilst we recognise this, we are not blind to the fact that two very distinguished men have attained positions they richly deserve and for which they are in every way well qualified.

The Architectural Association.

Ordinary General Meeting.

Prof. Richardson desired to convey—in a very well thought-out paper which he read at the Architectural Association ordinary General Meeting of January 14, held at Bedford Square—that the close study of structure in relation to the needs of the present day would in itself create a new style. By very many skilfully worded amplifications he expressed his conviction of the soundness of this theory. We believe that he is correct, but in a limited measure. A stricter observance of the everyday needs of the world to-day is bound to produce a decided effect on architecture. There was too much of the desire on the part of the architect to dominate and subvert every consideration to his will and his particular expression, and as tradition and a keen appreciation of correctness in historical style formed a considerable part of the architect's composition, he seemed content to design buildings which were in keeping with recognised styles. Rather than carve out for himself and his generation a style, Professor Richardson, we thought, wished to give the profession a lead, and possibly careful thought will be given to his paper and a closer study of structure and the needs of the client will follow. Mr. Robert Atkinson moved a vote of thanks, and in his remarks he seemed to ourselves to be in sympathy with ideals but was unwilling to blame the architect for the present day faults. The impression given by his comments was that he blamed the sculptor and painter, who were almost useless to the architect and utterly unable to grasp the meaning of his wishes and desires. They produced their work without any relation to architecture. He seemed to wish to suggest that the architect, knowing exactly what he wanted, was unable to procure any correct representation of his needs and after a period of time spent in irritating misunderstandings, was perforce obliged to use what was to hand.

The difficulty probably lies in the facts, first, that painting has become easel painting and decorative painting is at a discount; and, secondly, that decorative painting is seldom wanted in a modern building. We convey by the written word much that was in the past conveyed more easily by painting and sculpture, and it is useless to gird against or disregard the tendency, which is incidental to modern conditions. And this applies to sculpture other than carved decoration; it is needed and required to a far smaller extent in our modern buildings than in those of the past. The modern architect must therefore be more sufficient in himself than in the past, in which symbolism had a great use and meaning. The fault is not one for which either sculptors or painters are answerable.

But when Mr. Atkinson said that Architecture was Art, we were entirely in agreement with him. To ourselves Architecture has always been the beautifying Art of building. We feel that the whole conception should be one complete unit, and whilst structure might influence our ornamental expression it would be wrong to enslave ourselves to the limitations of structure.

Mr. Goodhart Rendel, in seconding the vote, thought that we possessed the architecture we deserved. As a judgment this is very sound, and might be applied to any generation. Veiled in humorous references, much that Mr. Goodhart Rendel said was very much to the point. Mr. Robertson and Mr. Benslyn also added to the discussion.

The Institution of Structural Engineers will hold an ordinary meeting at Denison House, 296 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.1, on Thursday, January 24, at 8 p.m. Major James Petrie, O.B.E., M.I.Struct.E., etc., will deliver his presidential address, which will be illustrated with lantern slides and will deal with the "History of the Invention and Development of Portland Cement," of the invention of which 1924 is the centenary year.

A further series of concerts will be given under the auspices of the League of Arts in the Victoria and Albert Museum Lecture Theatre on Saturdays during the period January 12 to April 26, 1924. Many well-known artists will contribute to the different programmes. The concerts will begin at 3 p.m. and continue for about an hour. Admission will be free. Programmes will be on sale at the theatre entrance; the League hope that the public will purchase them in order that some part at least of the expenses incurred may be defrayed. These concerts should attract a number of people. The conditions in the lecture theatre are very good. The Royal College of Art Choral Society in years gone by held some very successful meetings, and on conversazione evenings the lecture theatre with the Italian court entertained many singers of international fame.

English Renaissance Interiors.—II.

P. W. Hubbard, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

TREATMENT OF WALL SURFACE—(continued).



PANELLING (circa 1730). By kind permission of MESSRS. ROBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.

The great change that took place about 1650 in the manner of covering the interior surface of walls was the alteration in the size of panels. Where, in the first half of the seventeenth century, the small Jacobean panelling was the rule, we now find that at the time of the Restoration the influence of the Renaissance, as exemplified by Inigo Jones, had brought about the introduction of large panels about three feet wide, which reached from dado rail to cornice.

To ascertain the reason for this change, we must delve below the surface of merely constructive craftsmanship, and seek the answer from among the *motifs* that went to formulate classic design.

It may be that tongued-and-grooved work in joinery was not prevalent until the middle of the seventeenth century. It is true that once this method of framing boards, so joined, became general, big panels would naturally be the result. But we must remember that the *motif* which underlay the new architecture was the varied applications of the classic "Order." Thus it is that we find in Jacobean work most frightful travesties of the regulation pedestal-column-entablature playing a dominant part in mural decoration.

The publication of the drawings of Palladio and others gave architects of the period a chance to study and consequently revise their compositions. However illogical it may seem, they still utilise the pilaster for dividing up wall spaces, but it was realised that their value was emphasised by leaving the space between them comparatively blank and free from decoration. The previous form of small panelling had had the reverse effect, so large panels

and plain surfaces naturally became a necessity if the full effect of this classic *motif* were to be employed with success.

The old form of panelling was usually devoid of skirting and dado, but a definite horizontal division was often effected by the junction of the deep plaster frieze and the wainscoting.

It is this increase in horizontal lines which gives at once a feeling that we are departing from old traditions. English Renaissance interiors from 1650 show innumerable instances of this increase. Starting from the floor, we first have the moulded skirting boards, which now take the place of the bottom rail of the solid framing of Jacobean panelling. This line roughly corresponds with the plinth moulding of the classic pedestal, the top moulding of which gives the line of the dado rail—that is to say, about three feet from the ground, or the height of a chair.

In the work of John Webb it may be noticed that the dado was nearly a fourth of the height of the room, but by the end of the seventeenth century it became reduced to approximately a fifth, which was more in keeping with classic proportion.

The entablature supported by pilasters gives the next horizontal lines, and thus we arrive at the ceiling. When columns and pilasters are used, there also are naturally found entablatures; but this full order began to die out soon after the reign of Charles II., although there are examples to be seen under the Georges.

More frequently do we find a dado rail and cornice only—the wall surface was filled in by the aforesaid large panels. Their type differed from the Jacobean, in that they were surrounded completely by wide mouldings, which stood



OAK PANELLING FROM CLIFFORD'S INN. Reproduced by permission of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

out from the face of the stiles and rails—in other words, the panels were now raised instead of sunk. A typical section is shown in fig. 1. The space between the skirting and dado rail was sometimes left plain, but more often filled with oblong horizontal panels.

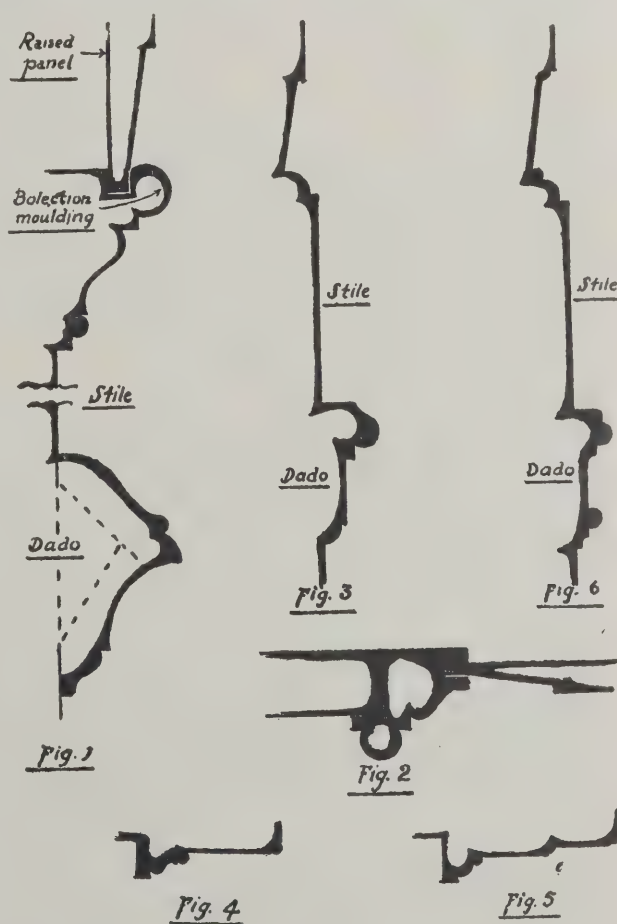
This new method of wainscoting greatly emphasised the scale and dignity of rooms, and these large plain surfaces enhanced the richness of any carved decoration that embellished the wall between them. The influence of Grinling Gibbons played a part of paramount importance in the history of English Renaissance interiors. The school of wood carving that owes its inception to his genius has evolved a form of decoration whose keynote is depth of undercutting and richness of effect. The conventional carving that was the outcome of Italian influence was relieved by the strong naturalistic forms of this school. Heavy foliage, swags of fruit and flowers, birds and fishes which hang between panels in the form of festoons are miracles of workmanship.

Gibbons decorated mirrors, architraves and chimney-pieces with equal facility. His panels and mouldings were chiefly wrought in oak, while lime and pear, being softer woods, lent themselves more successfully to his vigorous imitations of nature.

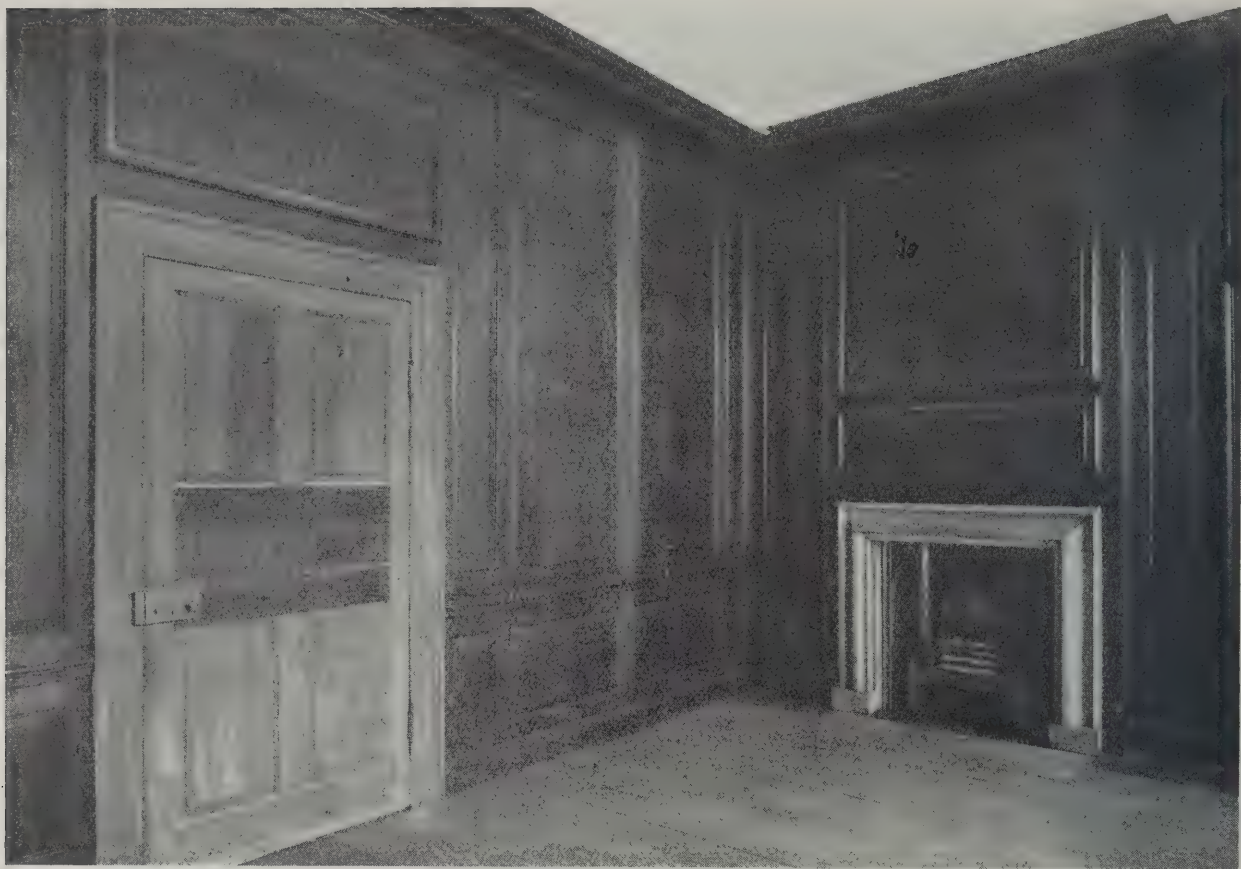
By the end of the seventeenth century, panels were designed more in relation to openings for doors, windows and fireplaces; they were consequently grouped, and long narrow panels took the place of pilasters and carved festoons.

The tendency of decoration has ever been to start in a bold and vigorous manner, then to become more refined, and finally to lose all virility, until a new style is introduced or evolved. This, to a certain extent, is exemplified in the treatment of the interiors of our English homes of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Doors, chimney-pieces and wainscoting show vigorous exuberance under Elizabeth and James I. They become more severe under Charles I., and in the Puritanical days of the Protector evince blank austerity. The reaction that synchronised with the Restoration set in motion an



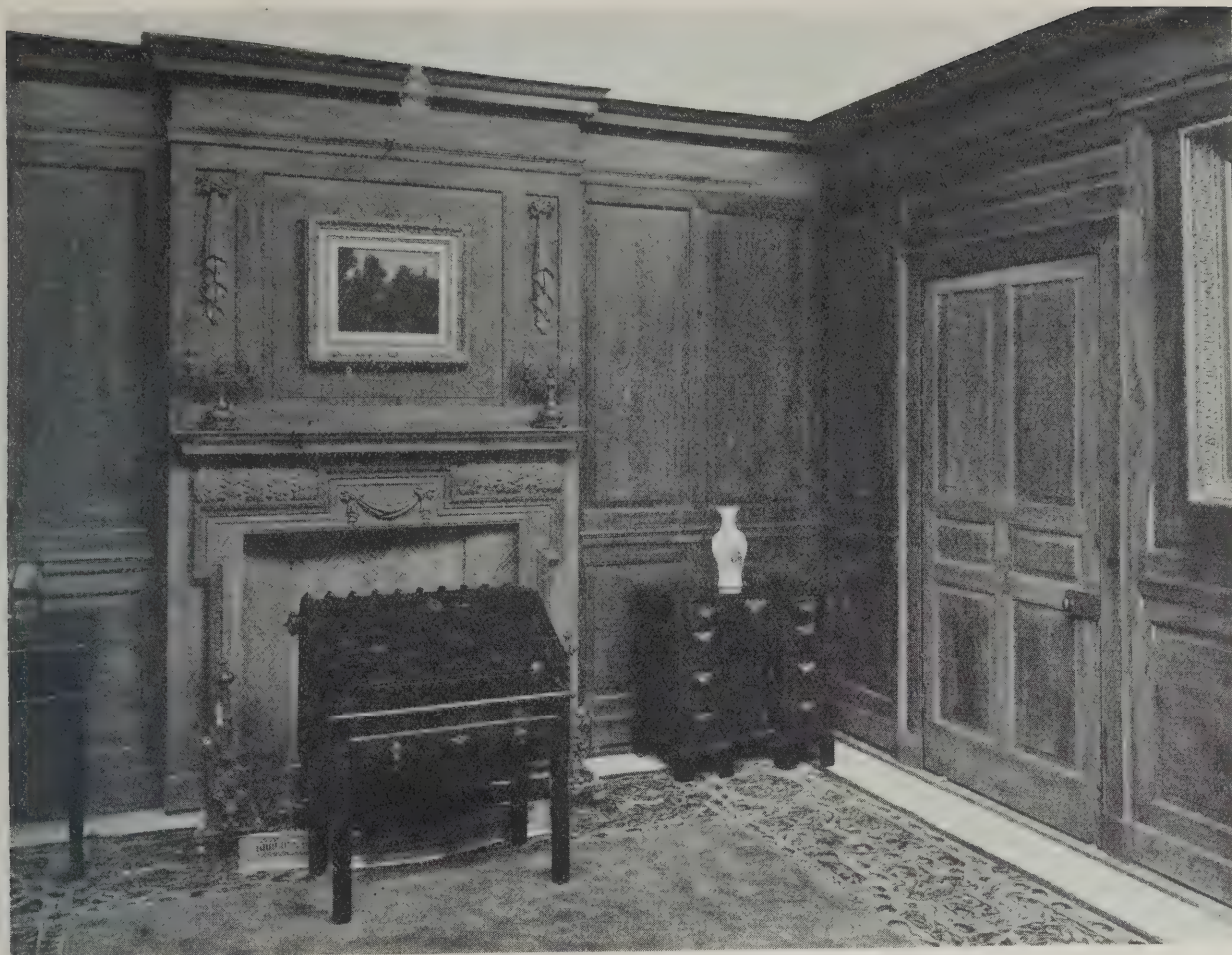
æsthetic desire for beauty of colour and line. The newly-acquired comprehension of Renaissance art gives us once more a vigorous exposition of architectural form.



WINGERWORTH HALL (circa 1729). By kind permission of MESSRS. ROBBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.



WINGERWORTH HALL (circa 1729). By kind permission of MESSRS. ROBBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.



PANELLING (circa 1730). By kind permission of MESSRS. ROBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.

To take a typical example of how panelling at the end of the seventeenth century became plainer and more simply moulded, we must compare figs. 1, 2 and 3. In fig. 1, taken from Standish Hall (about 1690), we have mouldings three inches in width with the big bold "bolection" covering the junction of the panel, which is raised as much as two inches in front of the stile. This projection is reduced in fig. 2, and after Queen Anne we frequently get such a form as shown in fig. 3.

The Spring-time of the Renaissance (as is usual in Spring-time) resulted in the growth of decorative vegetation. The vitality of Grinling Gibbons, the strength of Wren, the ponderance of Sir John Vanbrugh, were at length to give way to the lighter refinements of the brothers Adam, Sir Robert Taylor, and Sir William Chambers.

Wingerworth Hall,* though as late as 1720, provides us with a series of features, which serve as useful examples of interior development. In some of the rooms we find that pilasters with their full entablature have been used, and the fireplace in the illustration has quite an early section, reminiscent of the reign of Charles II.

At the same time the panelling and dado rail reflect the "fining down" that developed in the early days of the eighteenth century, fig. 6 (*N.B.*—refinement of the little ovolo moulding).

The architraves to the doors, be it noted, are in the regulation Georgian style (see fig. 5) which succeeded the shorter form of fig. 4.

It has been previously stated that oak was the wood most regularly used for wainscoting. Hence we are accustomed to talk of the "Oak Period"; but before the closing days of the Stuarts pine was coming into vogue. Panels were sometimes painted; in fact, when woodwork was required to be grained or gilt, deal was used on account of cost. The reigns of William and Mary saw an increase in Dutch influence. Craftsmen from Holland introduced

many new designs, and a consequent output of beautiful furniture resulted. English oak was veneered with Italian walnut. Dutch marqueterie inlay, with all its wealth of foliage, covered alike bureaux and grandfather clocks. Queen Anne cabinets of beautifully figured walnut have rarely been surpassed for elegance and delicacy of design. Such a hold did this wood obtain over our furniture makers that this period has been called the "age of walnut."

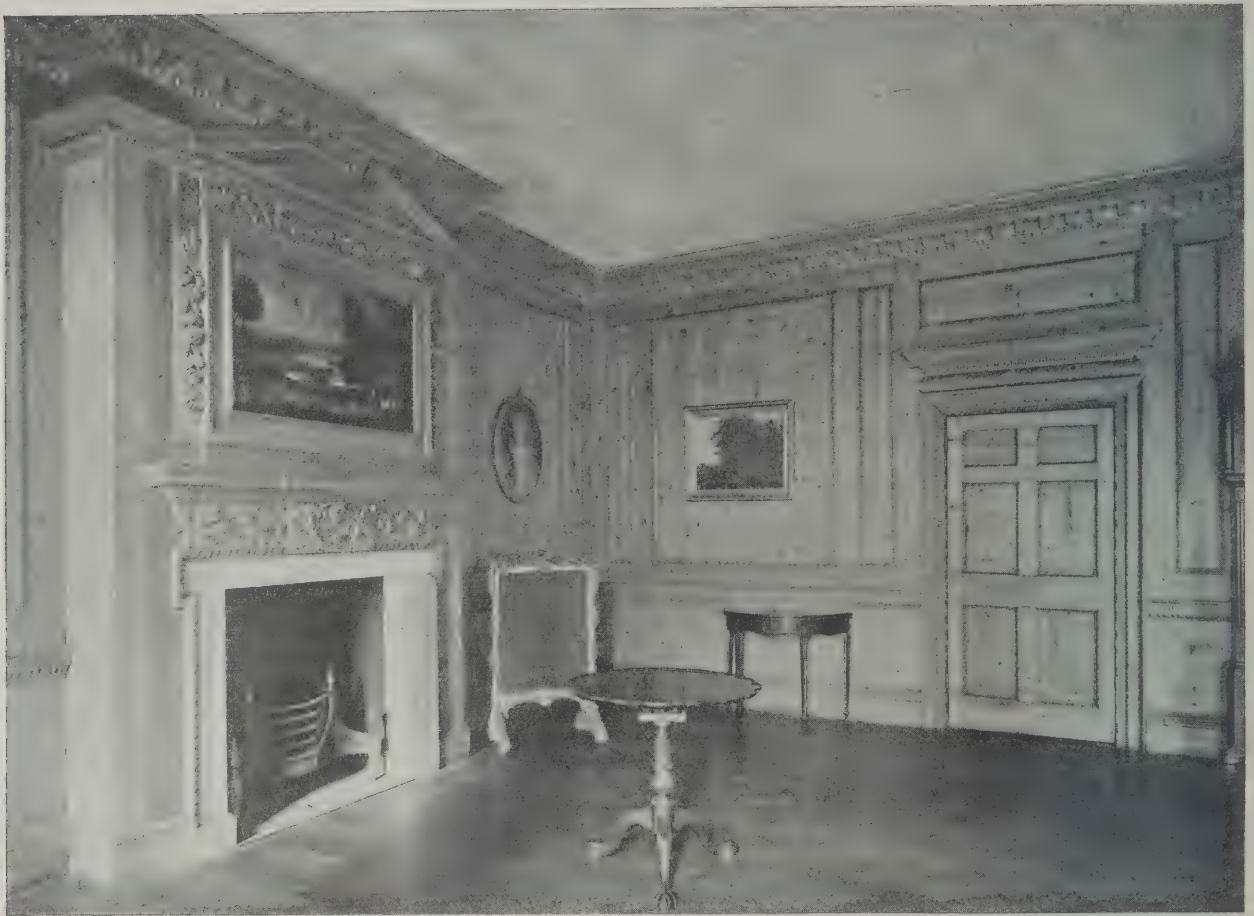
Though mahogany did not become popular till Georgian times, there are to be found doors of this wood and also of cedar in the seventeenth century. Wainscoting in mahogany was an expensive hobby, but it was nevertheless used with advantage at Houghton, in Norfolk, by Ripley, who built that mansion for Robert Walpole in 1722.

It may have occurred to the reader to wonder why such trouble and expense was devoted to panelling; when plastering had been employed before the Tudors in mediæval England. We must bear in mind, however, that early plaster work was little more than what we should now call "one coat work." It sufficed to smooth over the rough joints in the masonry, and gave a more or less uniform surface to the wall spaces between the timber framework.

There had long been a wainscoting tradition—that is, local craftsmen had always been accustomed to cover the inside walls with woodwork, usually oak; but the supply of timber was probably obtained from the wood that grew in the neighbourhood. Thus it is that the plasterer's art was generally confined to friezes and ceilings, which in Tudor times attained a high degree of excellence.

It was not until after Queen Anne that plaster as a regular wall covering was adopted. At first, shallow sinkings in the plaster continued the panelled effect. These sinkings became edged with mouldings and elaborately modelled borders, the centre affording an admirable field for patterns and designs. The use of this pliable material resulted in the increase of many flowing curvilinear forms in low relief, so readily adaptable to the art of the Adam brothers and their contemporaries. These artists were quick to take advantage of the opportunity presented by

* Now in the possession of Messrs. Roberson's, of Knightsbridge, through whose courtesy I was enabled to make the above diagrams.



ROOM IN ST. GEORGE'S STREET, S.W. Reproduced by permission of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

the same medium for both walls and ceilings. Great harmony of decorative effect was thus produced while this material was in vogue.

In a short account, such as this, it is impossible to trace the development of tapestry at any length, but no description of mural decoration is complete without reference to the famous factory at Mortlake, established by James I. From early times hangings had afforded the chief method for covering walls, and their popularity increased as the looms at Mortlake turned out weaving which rivalled the products of Bayeux and Beauvais. Though the factory was revived by Charles II., and turned out work as fine as the notable establishment of Gobelins, the fashion died out about 1700, and was superseded by plaster work and paper-hanging.

After the Restoration a stimulus was given to the manufacture of glass. One sometimes finds glass panels side by side with oak. Nell Gwynne had one room in her house in St. James's Square entirely lined with glass. Designers of the eighteenth century have left us innumerable drawings for mirror frames. Chippendale loved to torture his woodwork into fantastic shapes and twists. The "Chinese taste" became all the rage; we have whole rooms lacquered and the furniture "Japanned" as it was called. Edwards and Darley, Thomas Johnson and Matthias Lock all published books showing extravagant designs, which resembled a "hotch-potch" of Chinese, Gothic and Louis XV. styles.

We are accustomed to look on wall paper as a comparatively recent introduction; but as early as the seventeenth century wall papers with their stencilled designs have been found. These were pasted on to panels. It was not, however, until the craze for oriental decoration came in that walls were finished with paper. One has heard of instances where possessors of Georgian houses have been fortunate in discovering beneath about twenty layers the original Chinese paper. This old-fashioned method of pasting one roll over another, if not hygienic, was simple and economic. Originally paper was stuck on canvas,

for which the walls were battened, but later the paper was applied direct to the wall itself. This new treatment, which was fairly general by 1750, had the double advantage of being cheap, and also gave a plain surface against which pictures and furniture might conveniently be disposed.

Jacobean panelling was intended to be a decoration in itself; the later William and Mary form, though presenting good backgrounds for framing large monumental types of oil paintings, did not give a suitable field for small pictures or varieties of furniture.

Isaac Ware, in his "Complete Body of Architecture," published in 1756, gives the following summary:—

"Paper has in a great measure taken the place of sculpture. The decorations of the inside of rooms may be reduced to three kinds; first, those in which the wall itself is properly finished for elegance; that is, where the materials of its last covering are of the finest kind, and it is wrought into ornaments, plain or covered; secondly, where the walls are covered with wainscot; and thirdly, where they are hung; this last article comprehending paper, silk, tapestry and every other decoration of this kind."

Authorities—"English Furniture, Decoration, Woodwork, etc." (T. A. Strange); "The English Home" (J. A. Gotch); "The English Interior" (A. Stratton).

Mr. M. A. Piercy, engineer and surveyor, Town Hall, Prestwich, will give full particulars in connection with invitations for tenders for supplying and fixing 265 yards of iron unclimbable fencing.

The plans for the Glasgow Corporation City Improvements Department business premises in High Street and Glasgow Cross have been passed by the Dean of Guild Court. The estimated cost of these building operations is placed at £37,000. The additions to the Royal Samaritan Hospital are to cost £47,000. They consist of a ward block, operating theatre, new kitchen, servants' building and nurses' home. The Corporation Electricity Department are building a new sub-station at Burgher Street, Parkhead. The Parks Department are erecting a tennis pavilion at Auldhouse Park.

Architectural Competitions.

Competition, bad or good, is the lot of the average man to-day in every walk of life. Nowadays, however, owing to the aftermath of the War and the unsettled state of practical economics, it is more than keen in aspect—in short, it threatens to swamp our sense of perspective. It is so strong, so unevenly distributed, that it almost compels one through a sense of self-preservation to resort almost to methods in the struggle of life which even in business are considered somewhat doubtful. This temptation, extraordinarily strong as it is, is brought about not through inclination, but by sheer force of circumstances. No man of good stamina cavils at good healthy competition; it brings out the fighting qualities, proves his competence to take his place in the lists; but once there is a savour of ulterior motive, obscurantism, and unfair play, unequal strength in his opposing forces, his sense of injustice and threatened failure is very strong, and with the result that he is driven either to adopt the methods before-mentioned or to seek, if possible, another arena for his activities.

In architecture, by reason of its anomalous position, competition is very strong and is even organised. By the organised competitions the man of real merit proves, or should prove, his ultimate worth. As to whether he does or not in the long run is the vexed question which has recently been revived in the case of the Cambridge Collegiate Buildings Competition, over which a controversy is waging in a section of the Architectural Press at the moment. The winning of competitions forms, with few exceptions, the only method left to the younger men of the profession to obtain any form of recognition and the means wherewith to start a practice. Private patrons are far and few, and those who exist prefer to give their patronage to well-known men. There is no need here to belabour a well-worn truth. Left with this alternative, the young architect sets to work, the outcome of which is a lottery and which entails considerable expense. But these are risks which he is prepared to take, and does take, mostly through compulsion. The profession, therefore, can ill afford to-day to have a bad system of organised competitions, and controversy over awards resulting therefrom. It must be admitted that the system is bad, and has been so for years, and it is the universal wonder of many that the R.I.B.A. have not tackled the problem effectively. Besides the controversial awards made, one is lamentably tired of seeing, week by week, notices of banned competitions. This in itself is sufficient proof that either promoters are woefully blind to the necessity of obtaining the best results by the best means, or that the set conditions of the R.I.B.A. leave much to be desired. Putting this for the moment on one side, however, an issue has been raised in the Press as to the right of unsuccessful competitors to criticise an award. According to strict etiquette and sense of fair play, it is not considered correct for an unsuccessful competitor to do so. As stated before, members of the profession are perfectly prepared to take risks, but these risks must be worth the trial and labour involved. Surely, then, the best method to arrive at this is by criticism. Nobody knows better than the competitors whether the conditions or the award is satisfactory or fair, for by reason of their participation in the contest they are intimately conversant with the problem set. Are they to remain silent if the award is, in their opinion, unsatisfactory? How is the merit or demerit of an assessor to be gauged except upon the award he makes, and if he sits in judgment upon others he must be prepared to accept reciprocal treatment. In the recent Cambridge competition Messrs. Tait, Holt and Rees had the courage to protest, as unsuccessful competitors, against certain discrepancies in the winning design with the conditions set. They were promptly taken to task by no less an authority than Professor Reilly, who protested against what to him was a breach of etiquette, and suggested the arbitrary method of referring the offenders to the Practice Committee of the Institute. It is to be regretted that Professor Reilly should have failed to look at the question from a broader point of view. It was not an attack levelled at any man or men, but more a question of principle. Messrs. Tait, Holt and Rees may or may not be justified to many in

making a complaint in public through the medium of the Press, but it is difficult to see where they can otherwise find a medium for obtaining redress or even a hearing. Nobody who has the courage to express a contrary opinion is likely to be thanked for it, and it is to be assumed that Messrs. Tait, Holt and Rees were quite aware of this fact. They may be thanked, however, for giving additional protest and assisting to draw attention to a state of affairs which should not be allowed to exist. The two real grounds of complaint are, firstly, the single assessor principle, and, secondly, the interpretation of conditions and the method of their compilation. With reference to the first of these, it has been urged by many that the appointment of a single assessor is to be deprecated, and that the jury system is preferable. This system has apparently its drawbacks, on the ground of expense to the promoters. It appears to be forgotten that there are several members of the profession who would be pleased to be invited to serve upon the jury of a competition in an honorary capacity. If these men were to enrol themselves at the Institute as being ready to perform such duties, there should be no lack of opportunity to utilise their services. The selection of the jury for each competition could very well lie within the purview and scope of the Practice Committee of the R.I.B.A. or a special committee formed from the personnel of the Practice and Art Committees. On receipt of a request from promoters for the nomination of a jury this committee could extend an invitation to the various Architectural Associations in the country, more especially that one in whose province the competition lies, to nominate at least one member. This would be an act of courtesy which would not fail to be reciprocated and appreciated by the invited body, and help considerably to cement the existing bonds of goodwill and attachment between the mother Institute and the Allied Societies. Furthermore, the knowledge of the appointment would give greater confidence to the promoters, inasmuch as that selection would in all probability secure a more competent judgment as far as local conditions and difficulties were concerned. The adoption of the jury system would remove the present responsibility from the shoulders of the President of the R.I.B.A., who at present apparently nominates all assessors. This custom and practice has been much objected to on various grounds. The appointment of the jury, or even the present system of one assessor, if referred and left to a special committee of the Institute, would probably produce good results, acting as they would do in conjunction with the Allied Societies. One lives still in hopes of the jury system being adopted, especially in the case of the Masonic Memorial Building, which will be in all probability one of the most important architectural competitions of 1924. The well-considered judgment of such a carefully selected body of experts on the jury should remove all cause for complaint and relegate such controversy as is periodically waged in the professional Press into a negligible factor. Such controversy does a good deal of harm, but only if it is confined to the professional Press. In connection with this it is only to be hoped that the controversy over the Cambridge Collegiate Buildings Competition, with its rather scant recognition of the innovation of the promoters to encourage the younger men, will not deter other similar experiments from other would-be promoters, as it should be borne in mind that, unfortunately, such controversy is no new matter. The subject is rarely left alone in the arena of professional polity, and, from what is apparent at the present juncture, is likely to remain a sore point with many who would like to see a better system of things.

“AJAX.”

[We would relieve no man of responsibility for his actions.—ED.]

The Guardians of Lanchester, Durham, have issued invitations for the extension to the heating scheme at the Poor Law Institution, Lanchester. All particulars can be obtained from the clerk to the Guardians, Mr. J. J. S. Barker.

It has been stated that arrangements are being made for the erection in Liverpool of a new Maternity Hospital at the cost of £100,000. The report continues that the Committee of the Liverpool Maternity Hospital propose to put the work in hand at once.

The Charm of the English Village.

Captain L. M. Gotch, F.R.I.B.A., recently read a paper before the Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors on "The Charm of the English Village." The paper must have been very interesting, and we feel that the following extracts will be of value to our readers.

Villages are rarely found in England on the hills or upland country, and when they do occur are generally hidden away in little "cols" or narrow valleys, down which runs a babbling brook. The village of — in Derbyshire is said to have the highest altitude of any in England, and a bleak barren place it is. The reason lies in the origin of the village, which was primarily to give shelter to man and beast, and though the history of the village is not part of my subject, a very brief outline of its origin will add to its interest.

In general terms the village of to-day (not the small industrial mining village) may be classified as follows:—1. The farm village. 2. The feudal village. 3. The industrial village.

The first is a gradual growth round one or more farms, and can usually be recognised by the number rather than the size of the barns and farm buildings, and is the oldest type of village, and are to be found nestling at the foot of the downs or Yorkshire moors or Cotswolds.

The second is the overflow of the retainers of a landowner who, when times became more peaceful, built permanent houses under the shadow of the castle or hall, and date chiefly from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries; whilst a fourth type is the ecclesiastical, and are the result of the numerous ecclesiastical communities, and account for many instances of small villages with fine churches often much too large for the population.

The third type consists of those which originated in the housing of men employed in developing the natural resources of the country, such as stone and slate quarrying (Weldon) mining, brickmaking, timber felling, milling, brewing, etc.

Whilst all four are inevitably agricultural as well; and in addition there are innumerable hamlets or clusters of cottages which are usually purely agricultural.

Whether viewed from afar, its tower or spire a landmark for many miles around; or first glimpse round a bend in the road; or found tucked away amongst a protecting cluster of cottages and trees, the Church is to a village what a mother is to her children. Sometimes small, shy and retiring, her children sheltering her with encircling arms; sometimes motherly and companionable, her ample form offering comfort to her children who nestle round her skirts; sometimes a little aloof, her slender form towering high above the heads of her children, proclaiming to the countryside: "Come and see my children and taste of their hospitality, and talk to me, and I will tell you stories of the past and unfold to you the history of my family."

And so to us to-day the church tells of a village, where refreshment may be had from mine host of the Golden Lion. Perchance there is a village cross, and Manor House, a castle ruin, and always there is the church from which in truth much of the village history may be culled, provided it be built of stone.

And why only if built of stone? Because timber churches, being subject to fire, have almost all been destroyed, and the oldest one existing is Margaretting, in Essex, which is not more than 350 to 400 years old; and brick as a building material in England was not in use from the Roman times until well into the fifteenth century, and then was frequently covered with plaster, and thus its value archaeologically was largely destroyed.

Those of you who live in a stone district have perhaps rarely seen an ancient timber or brick church, and yet I assure you that you can walk, cycle or motor from London to Hull and see no more than a dozen stone churches, if as many.

I would take you with me from Leicester to Land's End and you would not see a dozen brick houses more than 50 years old.

It is along the path of this great freestone belt that the more interesting villages lie, because there are to be found in great numbers those architectural treasures which go to make up the interest of the village. And naturally the oldest buildings are found in these stone districts because this material is the most lasting, and thus we have towers such as Earls Barton dating back to about 1050, and Wittering Church, with its interior. They builded well and truly, those old masons; the design may be simple and crude to our eyes, but the arch is expressive of strength sufficient for the work it has to do, and the mouldings bold and in keeping with it, and 900 years is a long period of time, about nine times as long as the life of most of our housing scheme dwellings will have.

On the left you see another arch. I want to show you in the next few slides very briefly the chief characteristics of the various styles of church architecture to be found in the villages of England. Part of the charm of visiting a village is the uncertainty as to what one will find in it. The cottages and streets may be dull as ditchwater, and there may be nothing to

catch the eye, and yet the church may be an architectural gem of the first water. On the other hand, the church may be dull, or modern, and the village contain many features of interest.

The different types of churches one may find are as numerous as the whims of a woman, but the probability is that you will find one of four main characteristics prevailing; and the features in which you can best recognise these characteristics are in the openings, that is—to the arches, to the windows and doors.

The first is recognised by the prevalence of the round arch, and is called the Norman period, and may be described chronologically as twelfth century work. In the second the arches are sharply pointed, and windows consist of single lights, or two lights under an arch with a hole in the space above, and was called plate tracing. This hole gradually developed until the arch became filled with spaces of geometrical shapes divided by bars, and was known as geometrical bar, thirteenth century.

Influenced by the French church work of this period the tracery became more and more elaborate and flamboyant or reticulated, and the ornament freer and panel work became more common—fourteenth century.

This period is easily recognised by the prevalence of vertical lines in the tracery and the wall ornament generally, whilst the arch became less pointed—fifteenth century.

Following this came the flat 4- or 5-centred arch and the omission of tracery, whilst ornament almost disappeared.

Thus you have:—No. 1. Round arches of the twelfth century. No. 2. Sharp pointed of the thirteenth. No. 3. Elaborately filled windows and much ornament of the fourteenth. No. 4. Vertical lines of the fifteenth.

The sixteenth century saw the arch coming flatter and flatter, until church building almost entirely ceased owing to the dissolution of the Monasteries.

There is to be found in most village churches a chest, sometimes old and sometimes new, and this contains the parish records (except where the inartistic but more secure safe has been introduced). Both deaths and marriages are recorded in it, and it is to the vestry we go after a wedding to sign the register, which in time will repose in the great chest such as you see here.

And now out again into the churchyard, where we find much to interest us in the inscriptions on the headstones of those graves which fill "God's acre."

Captain Gotch augmented his paper with a large number of lantern slides, the selection of which proved him to be a man possessed of an unusual power of observation. As the different pictures of objects were thrown on the screen the lecturer justified their inclusion by a description of their use, growth and history.

The demands of the Board of Education have caused the demolition of many old schools, but there remain a number in our villages, such as that at Grassington in Yorkshire.

I am purposely taking simple examples and could show you finer buildings architecturally, but I want you to learn to look for what may be found of interest in any village, and not in just a few special localities, and you will find in many of the villages of England the old manor house with gables and mullioned windows, chimneys and dormers.

Captain Gotch, when passing over this district, had arranged his programme well. Tea at the Rectory, a stately Georgian house, typical of the dignity and order of the Church. Seated in the white deal-panelled drawing room, we find ourselves possibly in the intellectual centre of the village, and discuss all we have seen during the day.

Our host can tell us much that is of interest of the history of the place; as we leave, points out a long roof-line visible over the tops of the orchard trees, the old tithe barn.

What a fine line of roof, and how uneven it is—100 to 120 ft. in length.

Some more elaborate with fine doors, and are usually to be found in the chief farmyard of the place. Others are simpler, as one in the Cotswolds, but full of beauty of line and form. In many parts (the Home Counties) there are still some fine timber barns covered with tarred weather boarding, and like a church inside, with their posts and braces and arches.

Time will not allow us to see over the Hall, as we have to get home to the city before dark, but we get the lodge keeper or the butler to give us permission to look round the gardens and see the outside. What stately houses they are, varying in size and style, from great mansions to an enlarged manor house such as Canons Ashby, with its delightful gardens and simple dignity; and many such may be found in the stone belt; a different type found in the western timber belt as far north as Lancashire is Pitchfield Hall, Shropshire granite and almost bizarre in effect.

If you strike a village without a Hall it is more than likely that you will find a relic of still older times in the ruins of a castle, as at Ludlow, reminiscent of the clash of arms and the pomp and circumstance of the era of knights and tournaments; or perhaps a ruined abbey, telling of penances and fishing and good fare, hospitality and help to the needy in body or in mind.

Society of Architects.

Yesterday the Council of the Society of Architects presented their thirty-ninth annual report to the general meeting of the Society.

The report deals with the Society's activities during the period between November 1, 1922, and October 31, 1923. The Council at its first meeting in November, 1922, appointed the following Standing Committees and Boards:—Art and Literature, Examination, Finance, Practice, General Purposes, Board of Examiners and Board of Professional Defence.

In connection with Art and Literature the Committee held three meetings. The report deals mainly with the production of the Society's new publication entitled "Architecture," which in October last completed its first year. We find "Architecture" of greater interest than the former record of the doings of the Society, which was published in the form and under the title of "The Journal of the Society of Architects." Not that we wish to cast any reflection on the editor of that publication. "Architecture" is really quite something different from an official record of the Society's activities. It offers to the members other interests, and therefore cannot be fairly compared with its predecessor, which fulfilled a definite object in a very able way.

Sessional Meetings.—The response to the Committee's invitation to members to indicate any subjects which they desired to discuss was not such as to warrant the Committee arranging a programme for the session, and it would seem that the members of the Society agree with the Committee's view that in the absence of any general demand for opportunities of the kind it is inadvisable to provide for them.

Practice.—The Committee appointed in November, 1922, held nine meetings. A total of 161 applications were received for admission to various classes of membership, of which 123 were admitted. The Society lost 64 members during the year, for various reasons. The total membership shows an increase of 71 over last year.

Thirty-three competitions were considered by the Committee. The Society's representatives on the R.I.B.A. Competitions Sub-Committee made numerous suggestions for amendments and agreed to certain proposed revisions to the competitions conditions, which it was decided should be issued by each body in its own name. The Society's proposal for a joint Committee to administer the regulations was sympathetically received by members of the R.I.B.A. Sub-Committee, but as there appeared to be a feeling on their part that difficulties might arise in putting it into practice, the Society did not press the point. The Committee confirmed their representatives' action and await confirmation of the agreed document by the R.I.B.A.

Conditions of Contract.—It is understood that something in the nature of a deadlock arose over certain points during the joint negotiations with the Builders, and that the latter have been giving careful consideration to the matters at issue and may shortly be able to announce when the joint negotiations can be resumed on the proposals for a national agreement form.

R.I.B.A. New Building Code Joint Committee.—It is understood that the joint Committee has come to the conclusion that there are insuperable difficulties in the way of establishing a uniform code of building by-laws applicable to England and Wales, and that it would be preferable to support the Ministry of Health in urging Local Authorities outside London to revise their building by-laws. In these circumstances the joint Committee was not reappointed by the R.I.B.A. at the commencement of the Session.

Landed Property Practitioners (Registration) Bill.—The Committee has had under consideration the proposal to form a Landed Property Practitioners Board for the purpose of registering under an Act of Parliament all persons dealing with land or buildings for the purpose of development otherwise than for agriculture or the collection of rents. It appeared to the Committee that the proposal if carried out would encroach upon the practice of architects and surveyors to a considerable extent, and negotiations were entered into and certain suggestions made by the Society for amending the Bill, and arrangements have been made for a conference between the promoters and the Society's representatives on the subject in due course.

The Society's arbitration rules have been redrafted and the scope of the Committee enlarged so that it can deal not only with references as provided for in the Society's form of contract, but can also be available for reference by consent out of Court and under the order of the Court concerning matters in dispute affecting or connected with architecture, or the building or allied trades. Major Watson, F.R.I.B.A., Barrister-at-law, has been appointed Registrar of the Committee.

Schedule of Daywork Charges.—The Society accepted an invitation from the London Master Builders Association to be represented on a joint conference of architects, surveyors, and

builders, to discuss a schedule of daywork charges ancillary to the ordinary building contract. The Society appointed two representatives, but it is understood that the conference has not yet been convened.

The Membership 2 (b) Examination.—Forty-four candidates were admitted to the Half-Yearly Membership Examination in April and October, of whom 14 satisfied the Examiners. The majority of those who fail include architectural composition and design in the subjects in which they are relegated, thus emphasising the Committee's experience in regard to the lack of educational facilities in the smaller centres and the circumstances which prevent some of the candidates from attending the courses at the recognised schools of architecture on account of distance and other disabilities. It was to meet this difficulty that the Society's Correspondence Courses in Design were revived last year. These Courses have proved extremely successful; the number of candidates is increasing. At the date of this report the first Course is nearing completion and sufficient progress has been made to justify the Committee not only in continuing it but in extending its scope and advantages.

Competitions and Scholarships.—Last year the four Quarterly Competitions and the Travelling Studentship and the Architectural Scholarship competitions were superseded by Half-Yearly Design competitions, each of the value of £40. It was found, however, that the latter did not receive the support which was anticipated, owing to the greater attractions of other educational facilities such as the Correspondence Design Course. It was therefore decided to discard the Half-Yearly Design Competition and to concentrate on the Correspondence Design Course and the open competitions—viz., the Victory Scholarship and the Trehearne-Norman Essay Competition, and the Foreign Travel Scholarship.

Through the liberality of a member of the Society who wishes to remain anonymous, the Council felt justified in establishing a scholarship for the study of modern architecture abroad, of the value of £250, to be offered annually for three years in succession, after which the proposal would be reviewed. The scholarship was announced in November, 1922, and five entries were received, which were adjudicated upon by a jury composed of Messrs. A. J. Davis, F.R.I.B.A.; Lt.-Col. H. P. L. Cart de Lafontaine, O.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.; H. V. Lanchester, F.R.I.B.A.; H. M. Robertson, S.A.D.G., M.S.A.; and L. Sylvester Sullivan, F.S.Arc., A.R.I.B.A. After a personal interview with two of the candidates, the jury recommended that the scholarship be awarded to Mr. R. A. Cordingley, of Sale, Cheshire. Almost immediately afterwards, Mr. Cordingley was successful in gaining the Rome Scholarship as well. This was of the value of £250 per annum tenable for three years, and as Mr. Cordingley found it impossible to comply with the regulations of both these scholarships at the same time, he elected to avail himself of the Rome Scholarship, and asked the Council of the Society to cancel the award of the Foreign Travel Scholarship. The Council thereupon cancelled its award to Mr. Cordingley and decided to offer the scholarship *de novo* in 1924.

The Victory Scholarship Final Designs, 1922, were exhibited in various centres, and the Committee received communications from the architectural schools concerned showing that the exhibitions had proved of the greatest interest both from the educational point of view and as explaining the method under which the competition was conducted. Last year (1923) thirty designs were received from competitors in Part I, sitting at Aberdeen, Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool and London, on Saturday, June 9. The programme consisted of a Monumental Fountain, and the Jury of Assessors—Messrs. H. V. Lanchester, F.R.I.B.A.; L. Sylvester Sullivan, F.S.Arc., A.R.I.B.A.; L. H. Bucknell, A.R.I.B.A.; G. Gordon Hake, A.R.I.B.A.; and H. M. Robertson, S.A.D.G., M.S.A.—selected ten drawings, the authors of which were eligible to compete in Part II. These were F. Scarlett; B. M. Flegg; D. F. Martin-Smith; C. S. White; J. C. Shepherd; R. H. Brentnall (Bristol); A. J. Saise (Bristol); J. A. Coia (Glasgow); J. Addison (Leeds); S. Bradley (Leeds).

The whole of the *Esquisses* were exhibited at the Society's headquarters, and the final competition was held on July 14 in London. The Society was represented on the Jury by Mr. L. S. Sullivan, F.S.Arc., A.R.I.B.A.; the Royal Academy Ateliers by Messrs. Fernand Billerey; Arthur J. Davis, F.R.I.B.A.; and Professor A. E. Richardson, F.R.I.B.A.; and the competing schools by Mr. L. H. Bucknell, A.R.I.B.A., who awarded the Gold Medal and the prize of one hundred pounds for the design sent in by Mr. B. M. Flegg, a student of the Architectural Association Schools, at present in his fifth year. In addition to this prize each competitor who completed his designs in the final round was awarded a completion premium of five pounds. The whole

of the designs in the final competition were exhibited at the Society's headquarters and a public criticism of them was given by Mr. Arthur J. Davis, F.R.I.B.A., on behalf of the Jury, on Thursday, October 11. The programme for the final round required a complete lay-out for a hydropathic establishment, which was to include, besides the main building and the administrative block, a pump-room with water storage and a commodious garage.

Trehearne-Norman Essay.—The subject set for this Essay Competition was "The influence of high buildings on civic development." Five essays were received and scrutinised by the assessors, Messrs. L. Sylvester Sullivan, F.S.Arc., A.R.I.B.A., and H. G. Tait, A.R.I.B.A., who awarded the prize of £15 to Mr. F. R. Jelley, A.R.I.B.A., whose essay was afterwards published in the Journal.

Discipline.—Several cases were dealt with by the Committee under Article 23 of the Articles of Association. In one instance an inquiry was held which resulted in restoring a candidate's name to the list for election, and he was duly elected. In others a member tendered his resignation, and another elected to conform to the regulations rather than run the risk of losing his membership qualification.

Retrenched Officers.—In reply to a communication from the Ministry of Labour asking for concessions to be granted by professional societies to compulsorily retired officers on the lines previously given to ex-service trainees, the Committee undertook to consider on their merits any requests from schools of architecture, etc., for the granting of special concessions to ex-officers of H.M. Forces.

Education Conference, 1924.—The Society is represented in an advisory capacity on the R.I.B.A. Board of Architectural Education, and has expressed its desire to co-operate and take part in the conference which is to be held under the auspices of the R.I.B.A. in the autumn of 1924.

The Surveyors' Institution.

Leasehold Enfranchisement.

Extracts from a Memorandum by the Council of The Surveyors' Institution, January 7, 1924.

(a) There will be less incentive when building leases are granted to insist upon a good layout if the freeholder's interest is liable to be limited, and the control of part or the whole of the building estate taken out of his hands or those of his successors.

(b) Properties let on lease on a well-managed estate are made to revert to the freeholders at the same date, a fact which affords opportunity for foresight in the management of an estate, and for redevelopment if the buildings are worn out or have become out of date. It will be appreciated that such improvement schemes are rendered impossible if individual lessees have exercised a right to enfranchise.

(c) Any system of leasehold enfranchisement would seriously militate against the opportunities which are now afforded of securing the reconstruction of a district on a large scale according to modern ideas, and also against obtaining, at the minimum of cost to the local authorities concerned, those public improvements which the growth of any large city is continually demanding. Some of these improvements are of such a costly character that it is practicable to secure them only by awaiting an opportunity when the local authority would be in a position to obtain the land needed for these public purposes without having to pay compensation for disturbance. Experience shows that not infrequently the knowledge that an improvement is likely to be effected permits a certain class of trader to secure an interest in a property in the hope of being able to establish a claim for compensation for trade disturbance. These claims, already sufficiently serious, would be increased if a lessee could claim on the basis of an interest without limit in point of time. The opportunity for creating such enhanced claims ought, in the public interest, to be avoided.

To most surveyors instances will at once occur where desirable improvements have had to be deferred for many years, until it has become possible to execute them without involving the authority in question in the payment of large sums for compensation for trade disturbance.

No system which would enable a lessee against the will of his lessor to secure an interest of this kind would be other than of detriment to the public interest.

(d) Enfranchisement would tend to check trade development. Industrial, commercial, and manufacturing concerns frequently acquire the freehold interest of adjoining property with the object of extending their premises on the falling in of the current lease. A right to enfranchise would make this impossible, or would, at any rate, enable the lessee to prevent such development except at an unreasonable price.

(e) Ground rents, with their anticipated reversion, have been a favourite form of investment not only with small investors but also with insurance companies, public utility societies, etc. requiring an increased income in order to meet anticipated liabilities at some fixed date in the future. They have also been largely purchased by trustees for the maintenance or putting into business of infants on attaining their majority.

(f) It has been claimed that the leasehold system tends to bad building and neglect of repairs. The evidence available directly controverts this claim.

(g) As a corollary of the preceding paragraph it may be well to state that the view that separate freeholds, as against a system of large estates, tends to the prevention of slum conditions is not supported by the facts disclosed in dealing with the slum districts, particularly in an aggregation of population such as exists in London.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JANUARY 17, 1874.

THE PARIS OPERA HOUSE.

The works of M. Garnier's new house for the National Academy of Music, which is the official name of the Grand Opera of Paris, are being pushed on vigorously, and will, it is hoped, be terminated by January 1, 1875, but Paris cannot wait till then for its opera, and the loss to artistes and employes would, of course, be very serious.

To meet this demand the Minister of Public Instruction and of the Beaux Arts has arranged with the director of the opera that the Salle Ventadour, or Italian Opera house, shall be devoted to grand opera, the Government, in addition to the usual annual grant—32,000*l.*—making a complementary subvention of 24,370*l.*, and a second sum equal to 12,000*l.*, to defray the cost of the necessary scenes and accessories, making a total of 68,370*l.* for the year. This project has been favourably reported on by a commission appointed for the purpose, but it meets with much disfavour out of doors. Every one admits the necessity for a temporary opera house, but the Salle Ventadour is declared to be totally unfit for the purpose; its stage is not large enough, and the establishment is insufficient for the employment of one-half the full opera company; only certain scenes could be used, and the repertoire would be reduced to works presenting little variety, and which it is very plausibly argued would not have sufficient attractions for the public to make the undertaking remunerative. Again it is argued that musical art would gain little or nothing by the establishment of an opera house on such a narrow basis.

The question is, what better arrangement can be made? When the old house was burnt down, a proposition was made to build a temporary substitute on the foundations, which could be executed in two or three months, at a cost of about 12,000*l.* This proposal had many supporters, and the example of Dresden was cited in favour of a temporary house to serve till the completion of the new and grander edifice. At Vienna it was declared two grand operas existed side by side without injuring one another.

Now, at the eleventh hour, when the ministerial project is just about to be submitted to the National Assembly, a new proposition comes before the public, made by an architect of high repute, M. Lefuel, of the Louvre. This gentleman says that for 40,000*l.*, or thereabouts, a solid structure of the type of the Opera house now in ruins may be raised in three months. The whole company and assistants could then be employed, some of the existing scenery be made use of, and all the grand operas performed with a fair promise of success, so that instead of expending 24,000*l.* in pure waste the Government would spend 40,000*l.*, and, when the new grand opera house shall be finished, will be in possession of a second which would form an excellent school for young artistes.

The proposition is rather startling, but it must be remembered that the Porte Saint Martin theatre, burnt down during the Commune, was in like manner built in an extremely short space of time as a temporary opera house.

Messrs. James Diggle and Son, civil engineers, 14 Brown Street, Manchester, will supply all particulars on the payment of a deposit of three guineas in connection with the invitation for tenders issued by the Haywood and Middleton Water Board scheme for the laying of about five miles of 4 inch to 12 inch cast iron water mains.

The plans for a new school to accommodate 300 children, 150 boys and a similar number of girls, have been approved by the Board of Education. The building is to be erected on a site at Bedlington, Northumberlandshire, at a cost of £26,565.

A Roman Catholic public elementary school is to be erected in Southcoates Lane, Hull.

ADELAIDE HOUSE

*London Bridge*ARCHITECTS
SIR JOHN BURNET AND PARTNERSENGINEERS
SIR DOUGLAS FOX AND PARTNERS

THERE are about 2,000 tons of steel in the ten storey framework of Adelaide House. The height above Lower Thames Street is 124 feet; the two main frontages are 195 feet and 120 feet long. In this, as in other London contracts, Dorman, Long's Middlesbrough and London constructional shops have co-operated.

Delivery to the site is by sea from Middlesbrough and by barge and Dorman, Long's fleet of steam wagons from the London Works at Nine Elms.

Structural steel of every section: Steel plates; and steel "Universal" plates with rolled edges: Rails, tram rails, and conductor rails: Steel wire, steel rods: Galvanized and black sheets: Pig iron, steel blooms, billets: Ferro-Manganese and Spiegeleisen: Steam, coking and household coal: Chemical by-products of coal: Crushed slag, tar-macadam and fire-bricks.

Steel frame buildings and bridges: steel pipe-lines and tanks.

Dorman, Long
and Company Limited,
MIDDLESBROUGH

LONDON: 4 CENTRAL BUILDINGS · WESTMINSTER · S.W.1.

General Revision of Railway Rates and Charges.

The Traders' Co-ordinating Committee was constituted about three years ago by a number of trade organisations. We have no hesitation in saying that the work already accomplished has been of the greatest possible value to the traders of the country. A few examples may be given. In pursuance of the Railways Act it became necessary for the Railway Rates Tribunal to revise the terms and conditions for the carriage of merchandise. The companies submitted their proposed conditions covering not less than 85 pages of print. The Committee collected and co-ordinated the objections of all those concerned to these proposals, negotiating the proposals, paragraph by paragraph, with the railway companies, obtaining many valuable concessions and ultimately contesting before the Rates Tribunal all points of importance upon which a settlement could not be arrived at. The result has, we think, been admitted to be satisfactory by all the trading interests concerned. Similarly the Committee dealt with the railway companies' proposals for the revised classification of merchandise under the Act. Here again a vast amount of work was successfully undertaken. The Committee has also dealt with numerous other subsidiary questions, all of importance to the trader, but which need not here be specified in detail. These activities have, of course, already involved a considerable amount of legal and accounting expenses. These, with the exception of a trifling amount still outstanding, have been met by sums raised from some 60 traders' organisations which have taken a close interest in the work. The proceedings under the Act have now reached the final and most important stage, and the Committee feel that it is impossible to continue this method of financing its operations. The inquiry into the basis of the standard charges is shortly to be opened before the Rates Tribunal. As you are no doubt aware, the Railways Act provides that the rates in future shall be so fixed as to secure to the railway companies their 1913 nett revenue with certain very important additions. The Rates Tribunal has now to decide upon what basis this standard revenue is to be estimated, and this decision will not only govern the standard charges which will come into operation for the period immediately succeeding the appointed day (that is to say, the day when the new scheme under the Act comes into operation) but will also decide the basis upon which the charges are fixed so long as the Railways Act remains in operation. It is clear therefore that the decision of the Tribunal on these points may involve the loss or gain of millions of pounds per annum over an indefinite period to the general body of railway users. The Committee has hitherto proceeded on the plan of negotiating and agreeing with the companies on as many points as possible in all matters which have come up for discussion. In this way the field for litigation before the Tribunal and consequent expenses have been very greatly reduced. The same course is being adopted in the present instance also, but in a matter of such great complexity it is almost certain that a lengthy inquiry before the Tribunal will be necessary, and very heavy expenditure must be incurred if the companies' claims are to be contested with a reasonable chance of success. The Committee have therefore decided that all who are in any degree users of the rail should be invited to contribute to a fund for this purpose. It is estimated that, allowing for the greatest possible expenditure of time and the very best and fullest representation by Counsel, the total expense involved will not exceed £20,000. Should it not prove necessary to use the whole of the money collected for the purpose of the inquiry, subscribers will be communicated with.

Signed, Lord Balfour, The Right Hon. Sir Eric Geddes, G.C.B., G.B.E., Sir Herbert Matthews and Maj.-Gen. S. S. Long, C.B.

We have received the above statement, which is incorporated in a letter of appeal for funds. All enquiries and donations should be addressed to R. L. Drage, Federation of British Industries, 39, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1., and quote :—180/A/23. We feel justified in including this appeal in our pages because the work of this Committee has a very direct influence upon the conditions which greatly influence professional work.

The Rural Council of Evesham are having thirty-two houses erected. The District Surveyor has the matter under his supervision.

Mr. G. T. Farrow, builder, is erecting nineteen houses in Oliver Road, Doncaster, at a cost of £6,942 9s. 5d.; and Mr. F. Bate, builder, of the same town, is building fifty houses in Warmworth Road at a cost of £18,082. All the houses are being built for the Doncaster Town Council.

Calendars.

Mr. R. G. Spiller, building contractor, of Chard, Sherborne and Taunton, forwards us his calendar. The view is a country house, erected by him from the design of Mr. E. Guy Dawber.

Messrs. Shaw & Sons, stationers, Fetter Lane, E.C., have issued a calendar, with a view printed in colours, of Staple Inn, showing the Courtyard.

Messrs. Joseph Westwood & Co., Ltd., of Napier Yard, Millwall, E., have chosen for the illustration on their calendar a photograph showing the steel work of Westminster Hall roof. The view is from the south end.

Messrs. Vulcanite, Ltd., of London, Wigan, Glasgow and Belfast, manufacturers of vulcanite, flat-roofing, roofing felts and damp-courses, have sent us their desk calendar. The dates being alternately in red and black, make it especially effective.

We have received a very charming calendar from Messrs. William Brown & Co., Ltd., photo process printers and lithographers, 2 Bury Court, St. Mary Axe, E.C.3. The picture is from a fine pencil drawing by Joseph Pike, reproduced on a rough paper which gives all the beauty of the original pencil work. The process of reproduction is known as ink-photo. Recently, this process has been greatly improved, and as the result of many experiments, it is now possible to render reproduction on any paper, rough or smooth, thus greatly increasing the scope of the process. Pencil work is an exact reproduction of the original, and very few will realise that the view of St. John's Hospital, Bruges, by Joseph Pike, which surmounts the calendar sent us, is a reproduction of an original drawing. Many will consider that the process has improved the picture, and we can honestly say that in our opinion we have never seen anything better by any process of reproduction.

Messrs. Wickes & Andrews, printers, of 145 Upper Thames Street, E.C., have forwarded us a calendar, which is produced with large tear-off figures, very bold and effective.

We have received several calendars on thin paper, folded and badly crushed. We sometimes wonder why firms go to the expense of sending out that which can be of no service either to the sender or the recipient.

Trade Notes.

F. McNeill & Co.

In the year 1833 the firm of F. McNeill & Co. was formed as original patentees and manufacturers of Felts known as tarred felts, and under this designation are included to-day, asphaltic roofing, sarking, black sheathing felt, inodorous felt (Nos. 1 and 2), and brown sheathing felts, etc., which are made of flax or jute fibre saturated with asphalt for the black felts and brown bituminous compound for the brown felts. Messrs. F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., have been Government contractors for over 80 years for these various kinds of felts, and during that period have been entrusted with numerous important contracts, both for supplying and fixing and for maintenance. Messrs. McNeill & Co., Ltd., inform us that their asphaltic roofing was used for covering the huts, hospitals, etc., during the Crimea War. By special command of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, the Pavilion at Aldershot was entirely covered by F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., who were also the sole contractors for roofing the Great International Exhibition Building of 1862. In later days, millions of yards of roofing have been supplied to the devastated regions after the earthquake in Messina, and the recent calamity in Japan; as well as for the covering of huts, hospitals, canteens, etc., during the Great War, 1914-1918. The original trademark for these felts is the Lion, and their felts are well known by the advertisement of "Lion" Brand. They have a large staff of experienced men for the laying of roofings on roofs; and many architects prefer to have the felt they specify laid by the manufacturers' own workmen, to ensure that the material is laid in the best possible manner, and a good job guaranteed. The company also manufacture "Slagbestos," which is the trade mark under which they now sell McNeill's Patent Slag Wool. "Lion" Brand. "Slagbestos" is sound-proof, fire-proof and rot-proof.

The preliminary work on the Clapham to Morden Tube Railway has started; the distance covered by the new railway will be five miles.

Mr. James A. Williamson, A.R.I.B.A., City Architect, Public Works Office, City Chambers, Edinburgh, will be pleased to supply all information, etc., concerning the erection of lairages for imported cattle at the Cattle Markets, Gorgie.

The Divisional Engineer of the London, Midland & Scottish Railway Company, Buchanan Street Station, Glasgow, will supply copies of the specification and schedule, on receipt of a deposit fee of £2 2s., in connection with the construction of new roads at Gleneagles.

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HOUSE AT KINGSTON HILL, COOMBE, SURREY. HAROLD E. MOSS, ARCHITECT.

A House.

Richard the Third's historic exclamation, "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse!" might be very fittingly paraphrased, "A house, a house, my kingdom for a house!" as during the last ten years a large section of the people have either lived in fear of being ejected from their dwellings on the termination of a lease or agreement; or, on the other hand, confronted with a claim for a greater rent; or, in the third case, they have often without success tried to find a house which would suit them at a rent they are able or willing to pay. In a very large number of cases they would be well advised, now that building prices have dropped, to take their courage in their hands and build for themselves.

We no longer have the opportunity of choosing from the bill of fare of the speculator, for he has become very coy and retiring, as compared with past years, when he could be relied on to follow the public taste and comply with the popular demand. He has been wooed with entreaties and scolded in turn, but he no longer feels inclined to pull our chestnuts out of the fire. He reflects that, saving his little contribution of 4s. 6d. in the pound out of his earnings, he is left alone if he chooses to make money by importing German toys, selling picture postcards, or any other of the public services which are so necessary to the prosperity of the

country, but directly he touches housing in any form he lays himself open to the inquisitorial interference of the Government official. The public is protected in a Gilbertian sense by penalising those who supply what is considered to be the greatest necessity of the times.

But as long as a man builds for himself he can escape most of these evils. His Majesty's Government do not consider building houses an offence, but only desire to kill the profiteer by preventing him from reaping where he has sown.

If a man really wants to build and live in his own house, he can in most districts avail himself of the provisions of the recent Housing Act under which he can borrow the greater part of the capital required, after complying with the provisions laid down in various interesting forms. If he does so and builds wisely, he is not likely to lose money on the transaction, and will find that after raising or supplying the necessary balance and paying interest on the capital advanced, he will be quite as well off as if he paid rent for a house.

It is true that, as he cannot escape all the evils of life, he will probably be almost compelled to employ an architect, but architects are, in spite of their reputation in some quarters, not altogether bad. Some are quite honest, others passably so, and many of them have



HOUSE AT KINGSTON HILL, COOMBE, SURREY.
HAROLD E. MOSS, Architect.

at least some little knowledge of their work and the germs of common sense.

Not every architect forgets the staircase in a house or builds rooms without windows, and we have heard of some few who are able to carry out a building contract without involving their clients in claims for extras.

We should be happy to give our readers, in strict confidence, the names of really reputable architects.

But, of course, though he has an inherited mistrust of architects as something unnecessary and expensive, the average man fears the depredations of that sinister figure, the builder and contractor.

Here we might remind him of that good old saw, "Set a thief to catch a thief." The architect may be quite useful, not by reason of his knowledge of planning or construction, but because he is versed and experienced in iniquity. He may succeed in discovering faults and omissions which the blameless and moral member of the great British public would never conceive. This is another reason for employing an architect which should be weighed and considered.

Then, too, apart from the strictly business transaction we are considering, there is one pleasant recreative side issue. It is often pleasant to fill the rôle of a martyr, always providing the particular form of martyrdom is not too painful and that the limelight of one's friends' admiration can be directed upon one. And how can a man be more fully in the limelight than he will be when he is in a position to denounce the folly of an architect and the sins of a builder?

But apart from builder and architect there are many interesting fields open to the man who has to build a small house. There are the various companies formed to run patent methods which promise him much in their prospectuses and will throw in professional advice gratis. True, all of them do not lead us to the Mecca of our desires. Our hopes were

high when a former Member of Parliament announced a plan of rebuilding England with waste material. Unfortunately, the buildings erected looked well and substantial till they began to resolve themselves into mud after the first heavy shower to which they were exposed, but other marvels are certain to be announced and described from time to time, any one of which may or may not solve our difficulties.

Anyhow we have to work out our own salvation. Our Governments have put the wicked speculator out of action, but, as we have said, they are, through the local authorities, in many districts willing to advance the greater part of the capital required for building. And though the speculator has to be shorn by the tax collector to punish him for having the audacity to try to provide what many want, the individual is encouraged.

Let him take his courage in his hands and either with or without the architect, by the agency of the builder or the patented process, let him build his own house and buy his experience. Adventure is not yet dead: though piracy in the Spanish Main is a thing of the past, we still may have the glorious adventure of building our own houses, and in doing so may be able to add further figures to the long roll of England's criminals. We give in this issue some of the works of those who have employed architects, but we should be equally willing, in the interests of fairness, to publish an interesting selection of the habitations erected by those who have not.



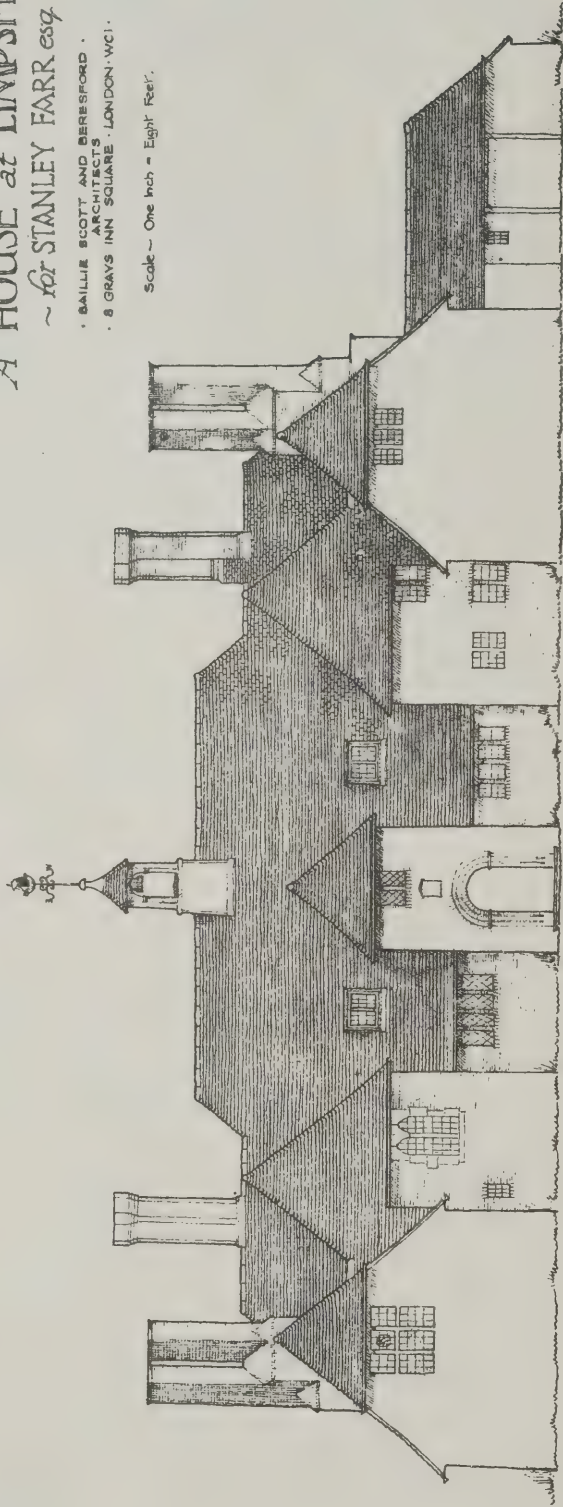
HOUSE AT KINGSTON HILL, COOMBE, SURREY.
HAROLD E. MOSS, Architect.

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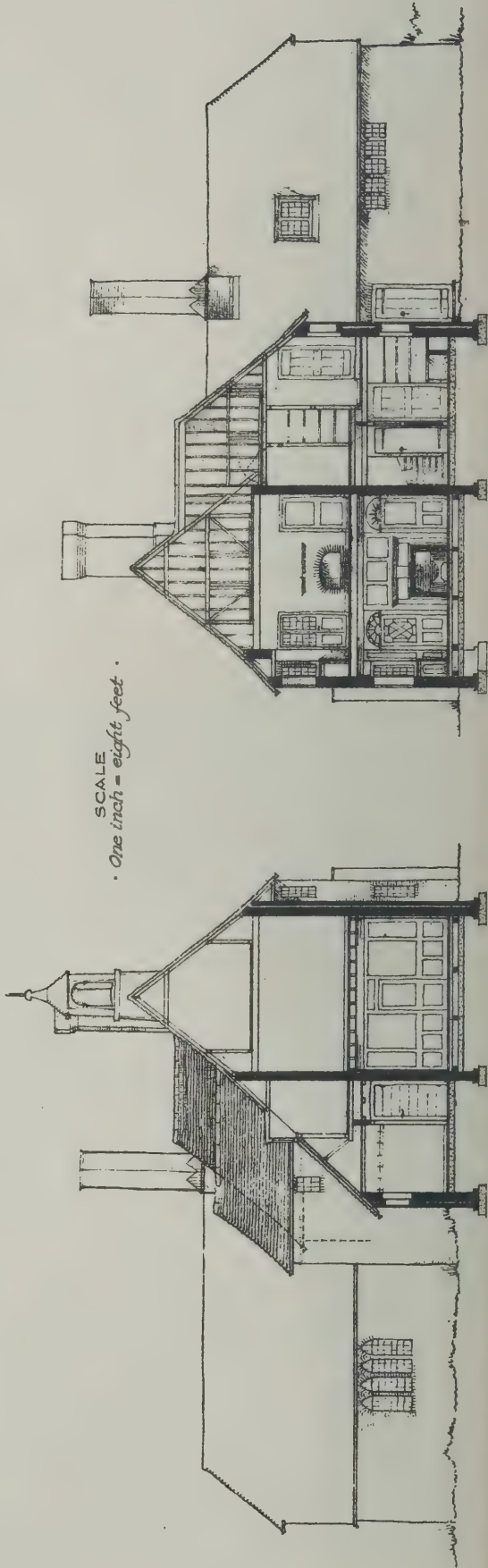
A HOUSE at LIMPSTFIELD
~ for STANLEY FARR esq.

• BAILLIE SCOTT AND BERSFORD •
• ARCHITECTS •
• 8 GRAVE INN SQUARE • LONDON W.C1 •

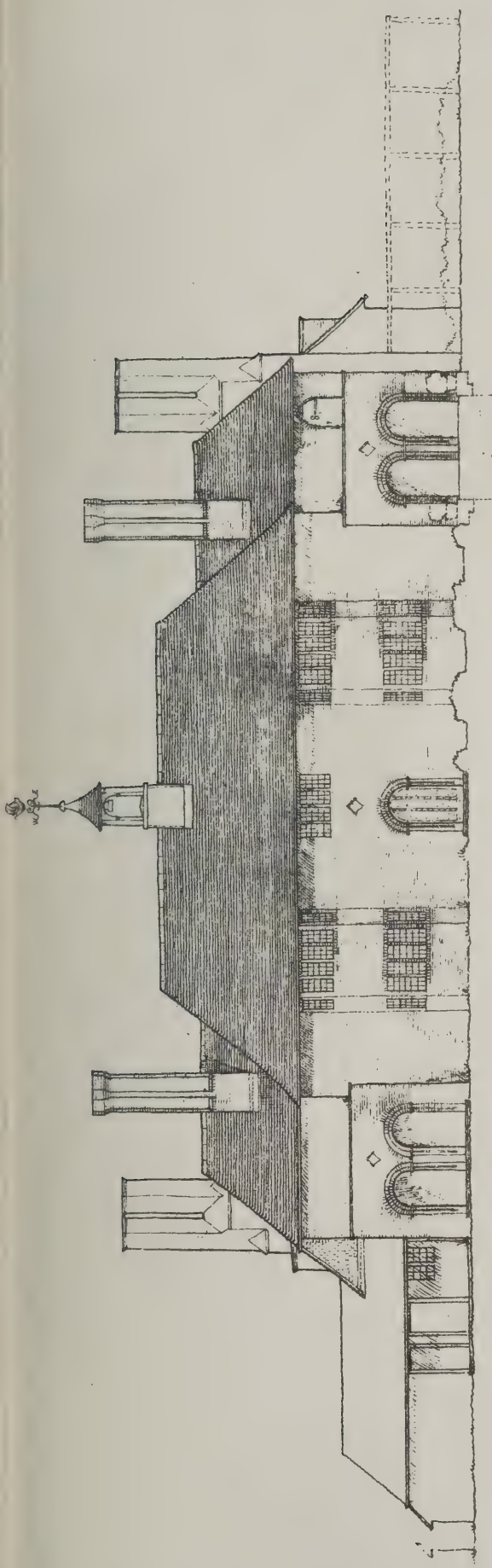
Scale ~ One Inch = Eight Feet.



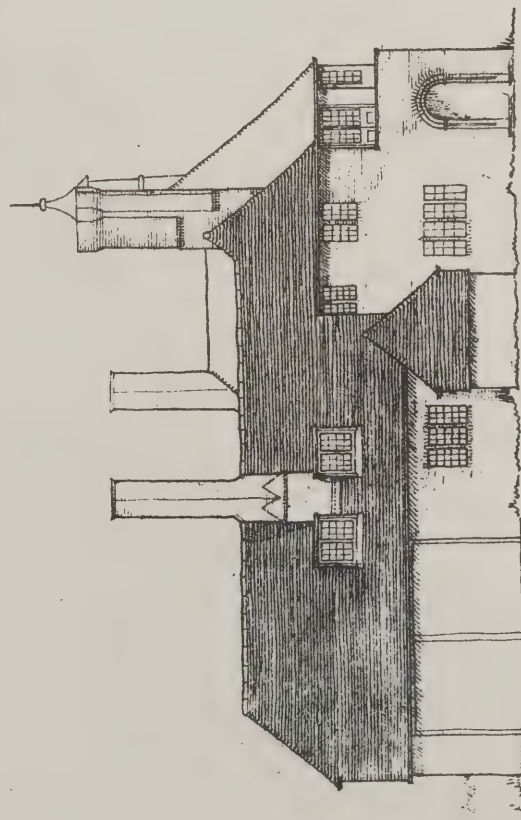
• The NORTH Elevation ~ Entrance Front •



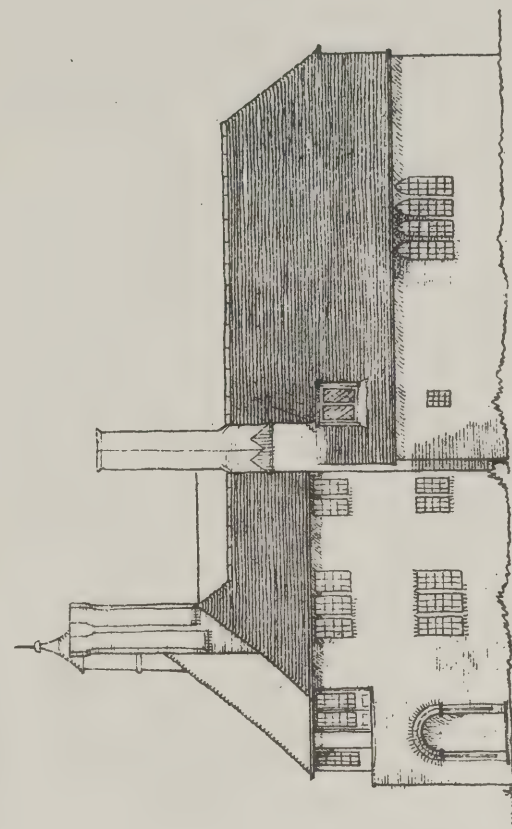
SCALE
• One inch = eight feet •



• The SOUTH Elevation (to Garden) •



• The WEST Elevation •



• The EAST Elevation •

97/986

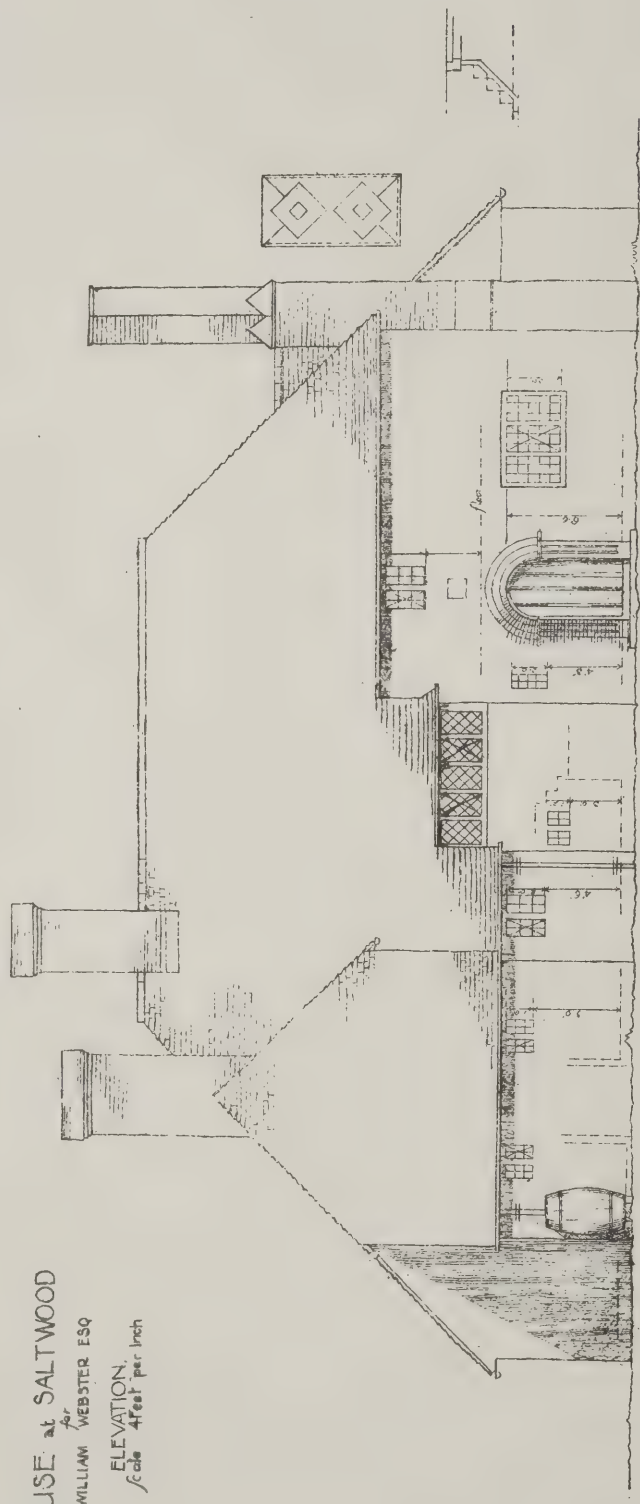
PHOTO-LITHO: WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C.3.

A HOUSE AT LIMPSFIELD.
BAILLIE, SCOTT & BERESFORD, ARCHITECTS.

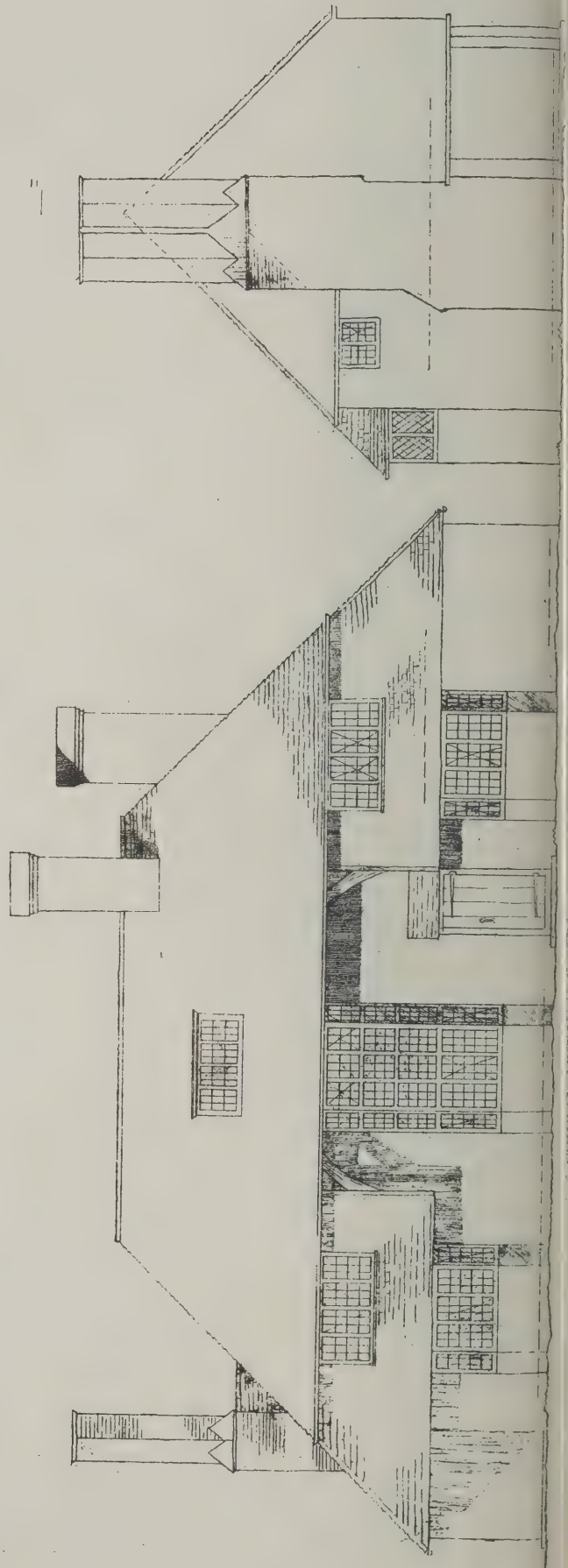
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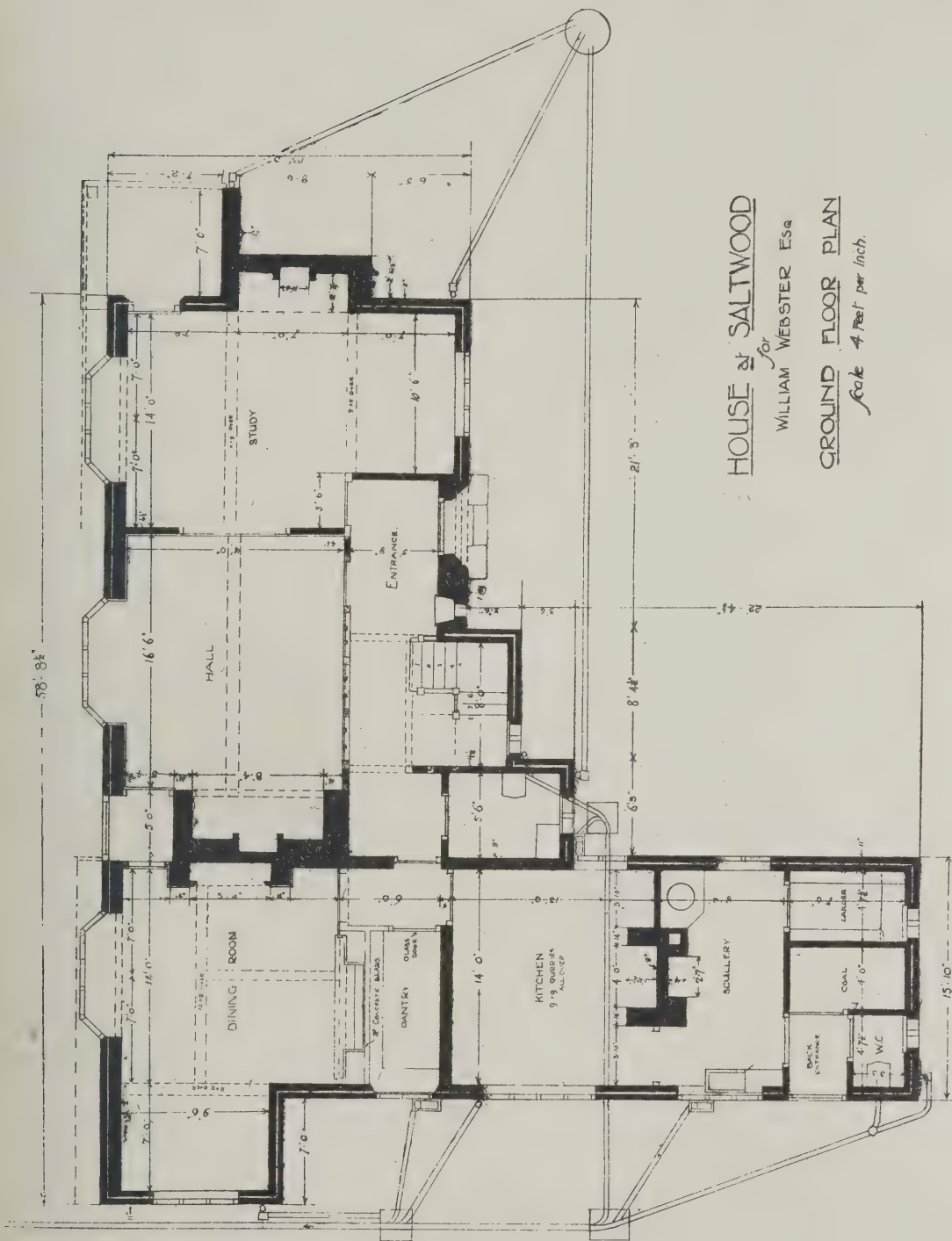
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HOUSE at SALTWOOD
for
WILLIAM WEBSTER ESQ
ELEVATION.
Scale 4 feet per inch



ENTRANCE FRONT





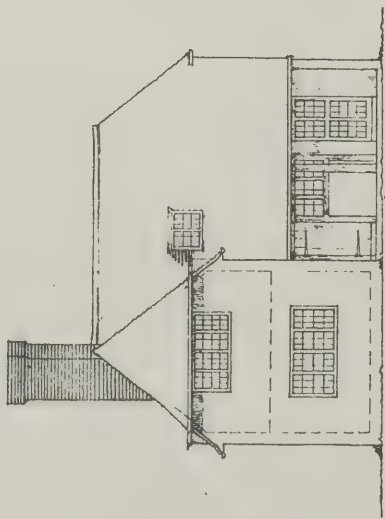
HOUSE ^{at} SALTWOOD
for
WILLIAM WEBSTER ESQ
GROUND FLOOR PLAN
Scale 4 Feet per Inch.

Baillie Scott & Beresford
Architects
8 Grosvenor St. W.C.
Sept 1923
31/10/23

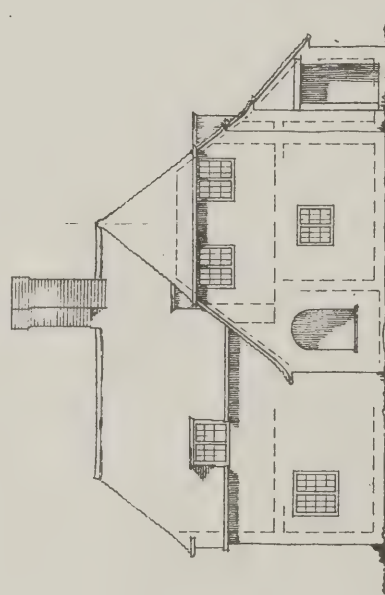
"PHOTO-LITHO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.2.

HOUSE AT SALTWOOD.

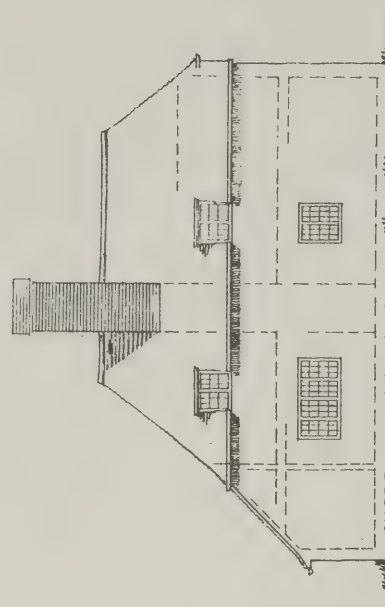
BAILLIE, SCOTT & BERESFORD, ARCHITECTS.



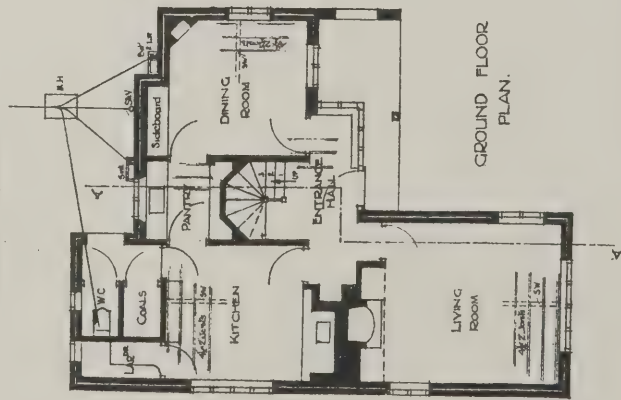
SOUTH ELEVATION



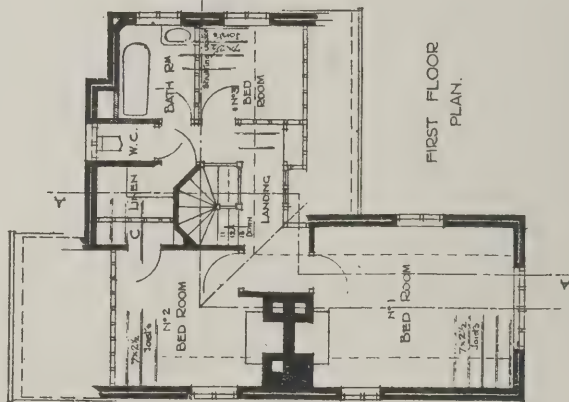
EAST ELEVATION



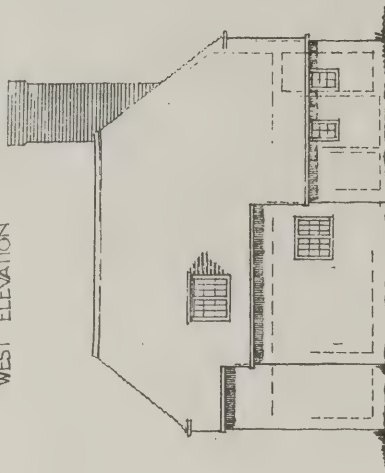
WEST ELEVATION



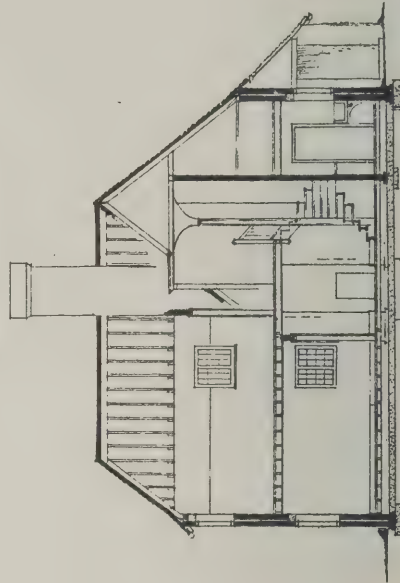
GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



NORTH ELEVATION



SECTION A-A

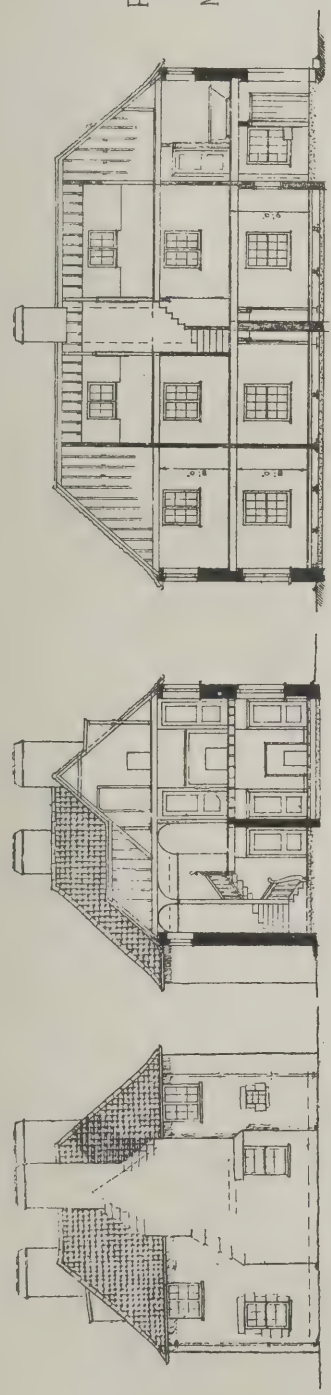
PROPOSED HOUSE
AT SEVENOAKS
for
Miss GROOM
Scale ~ 8 Feet per inch.

Quill Scott & Beresford
Architects
15, Clarendon Road, S.W.
100/2389

PHOTO-LITHO: WM BROWN & CO LTD, LONDON, E.C.3.

PROPOSED HOUSE
for
MESSRS CHARTERIS & HILL.

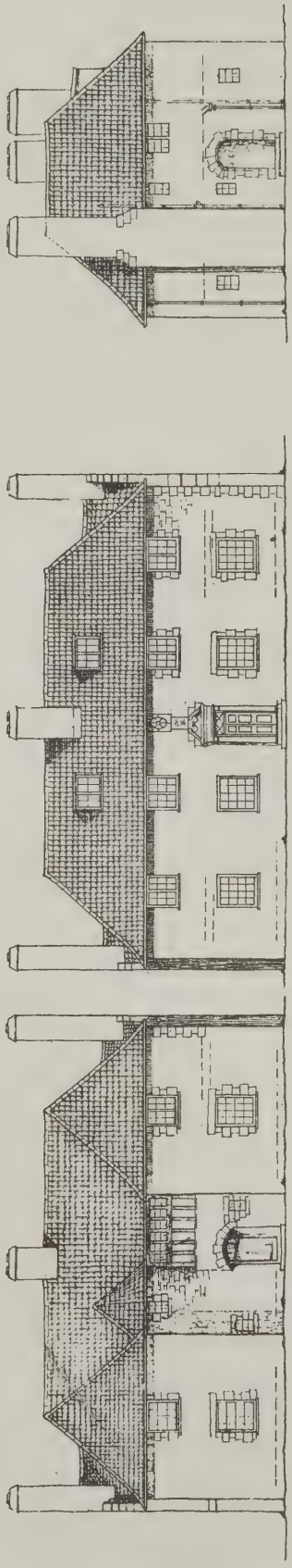
SCALE ONE INCH = EIGHT FEET.



SIDE ELEVATION.

SECTION A-A.

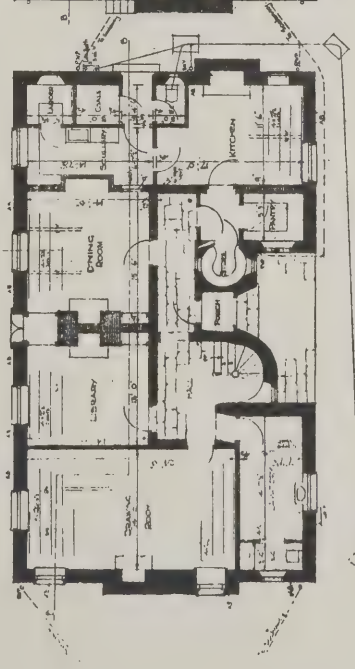
SECTION B-B.



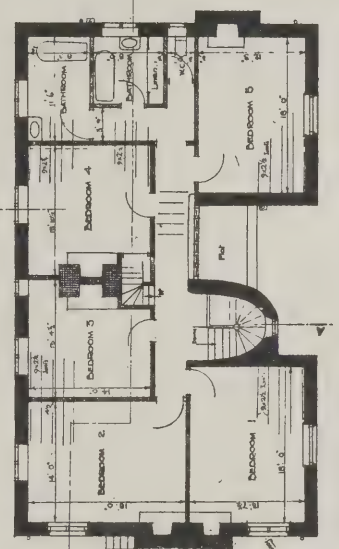
ENTRANCE ELEVATION.

GARDEN ELEVATION.

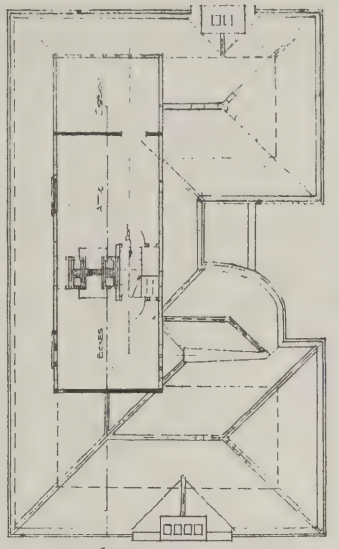
SIDE ELEVATION.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



ATTIC PLAN.

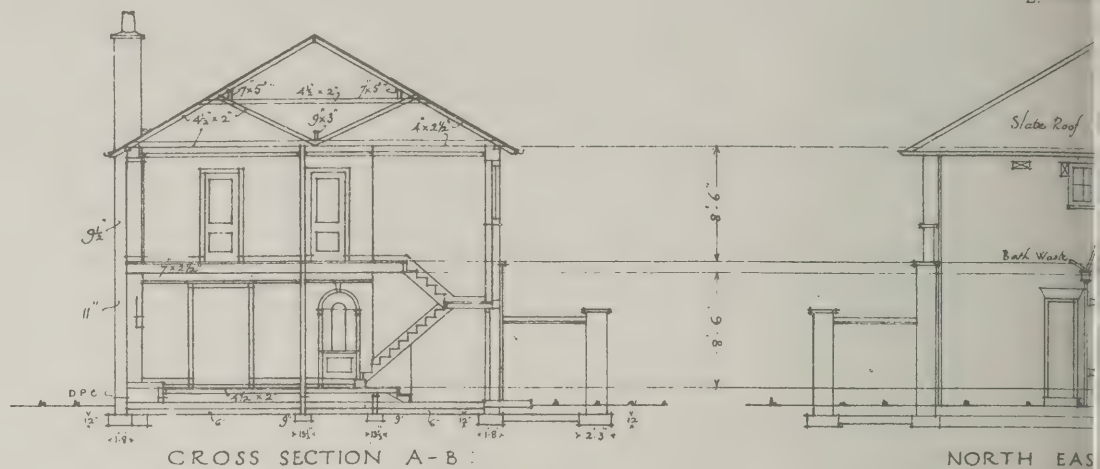
PROPOSED HOUSE FOR MESSRS. CHARTERIS & HILL.
BAILLIE, SCOTT & BERESFORD, ARCHITECTS.

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4 HOUSE ADJOINING THE LADDER STILE GATE K

For Mr. Harold E. Moss, A.R.I.B.A.



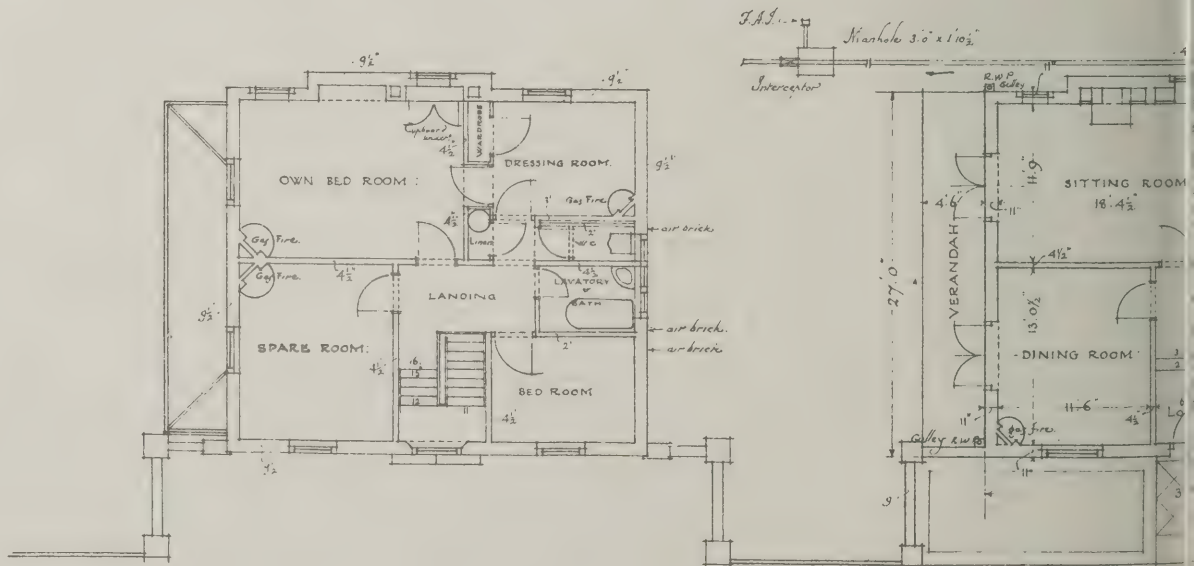
CROSS SECTION A-B :

NORTH EAST



SOUTH WEST ELEVATION:

NORTH WEST



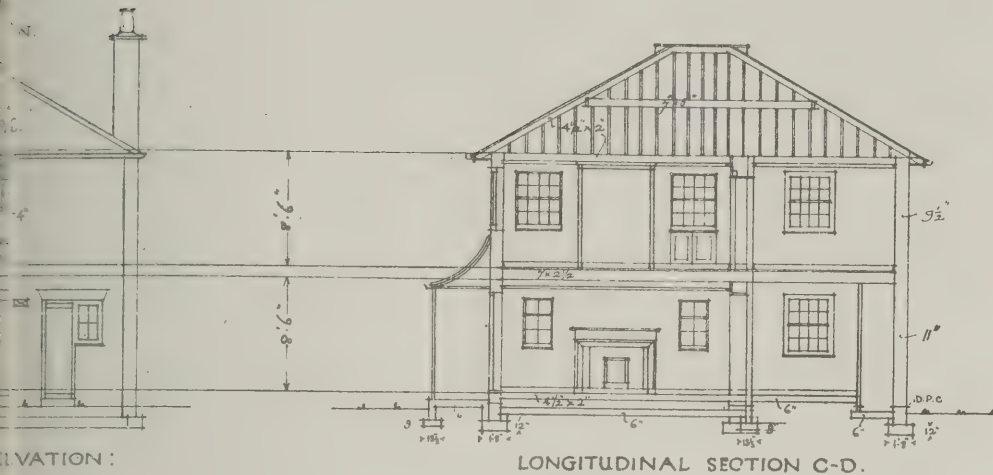
FIRST FLOOR PLAN :

GROUND 1

ARY 25th, 1924.

GSTON HILL COOMBE SURREY & Drawing No. 2.

Scale: Eight Feet to One Inch &

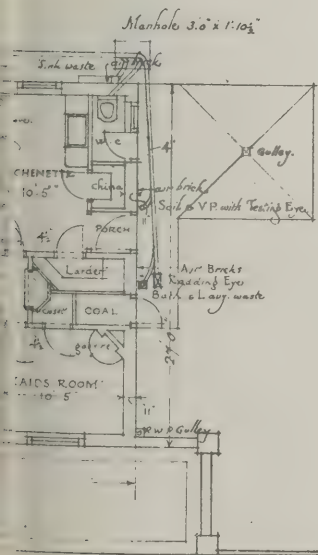


ELEVATION:

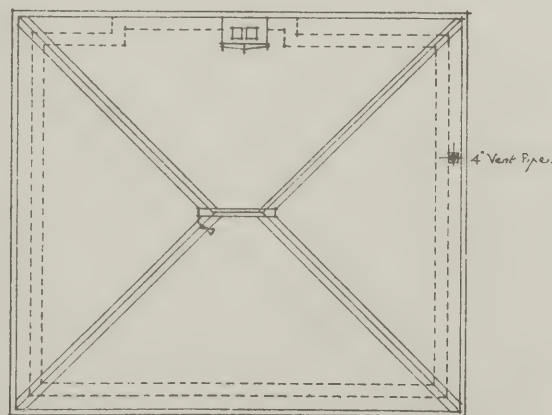


TION:

SOUTH EAST ELEVATION:



FLOOR PLAN:

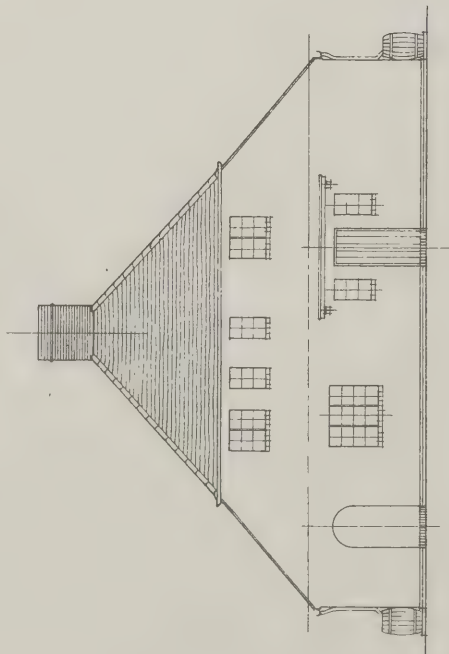


ROOF PLAN

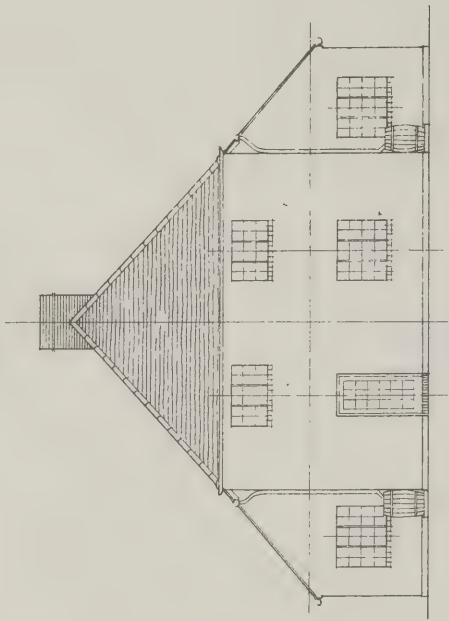
Harold B. Allen
Associate Royal Institute
British Architects
5 VERULAM BUILDINGS
GRAYS INN: W.C.1.
April 1922.

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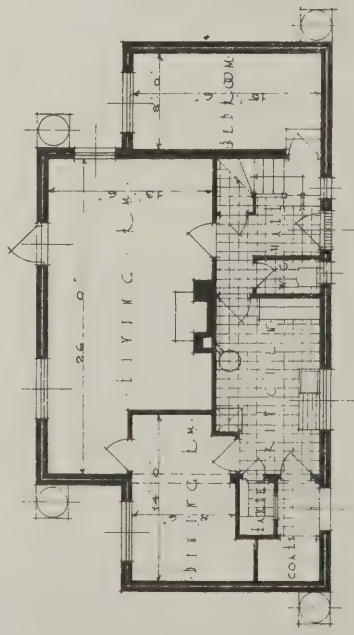


FRONT ELEVATION.

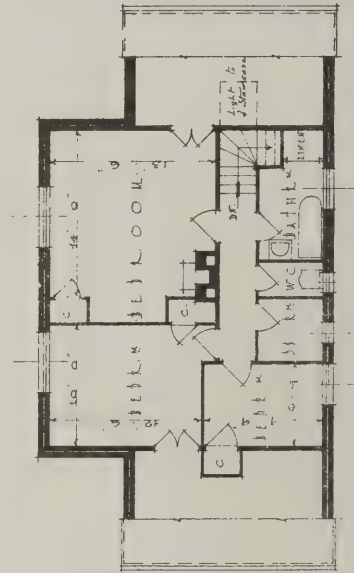


SIDE ELEVATION.

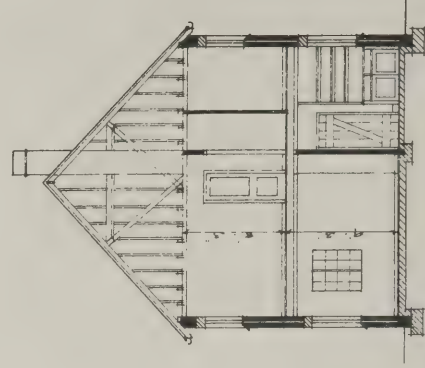
COTTAGE.
REAL
PORTSMOUTH.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



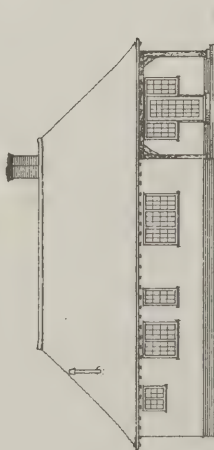
FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



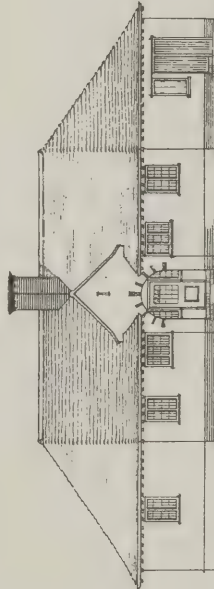
SECTION.



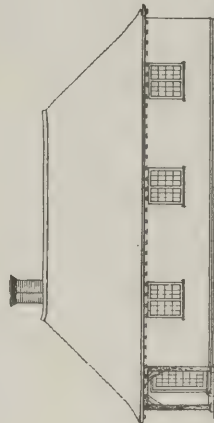
EASTON & ROBERTSON, ARCHT.
7 GILKAY STREET, PLACE-W.C.I.



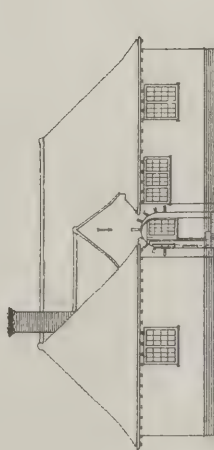
WEST ELEVATION.



NORTH-EAST ELEVATION.



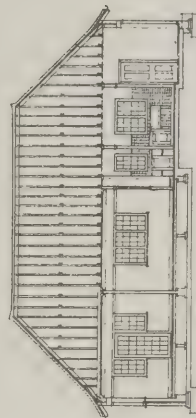
SOUTH ELEVATION.



EAST ELEVATION.



PLAN.



SECTION A-A

AREA OF FLOOR SPACE.
Including all walls, Roofs & Verandah.
 $40' 11" \times 21' 0" = 860' 11"$
 $24' 4" \times 21' 0" = 512' 4"$
 $9' 9" \times 2' 1" = 19' 7"$
TOTAL 1492' 6"

CURVE OF BUILDING.
Height from underside of foundations
to point in Gable ridge between
pitch and slope = 15' 9"
 $15' 9" \times 21' 0" = 331' 9"$
TOTAL 2360' 4"

Scale of 1" = 10' 0"

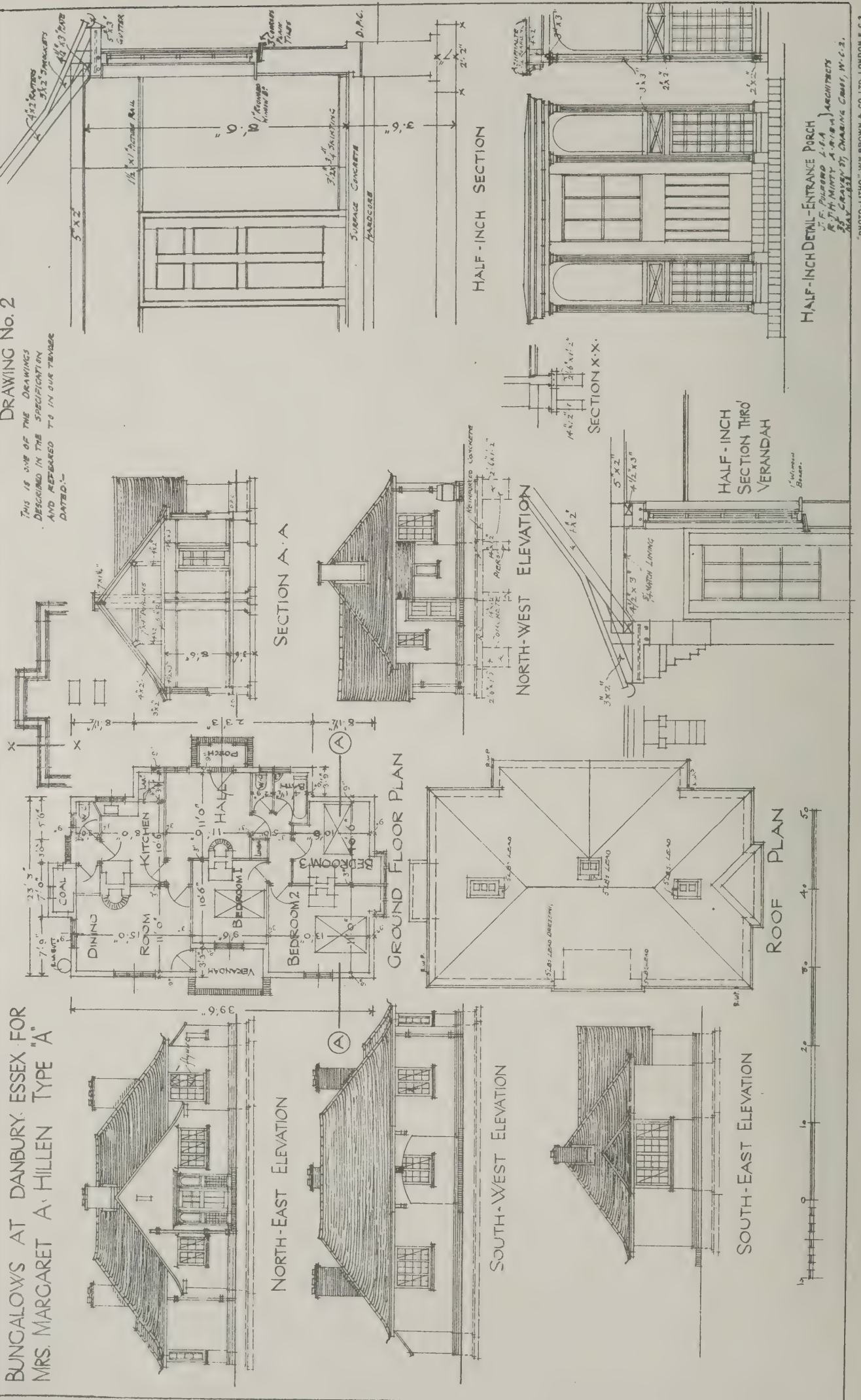
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BUNGALOWS AT DANBURY, ESSEX. FOR
MRS. MARGARET A. HILLEN TYPE "A"

DRAWING No. 2

THIS IS ONE OF THE DRAWINGS
DESCRIBED IN THE SPECIFICATION
AND REFERRED TO IN OUR TENDER
DATED:-



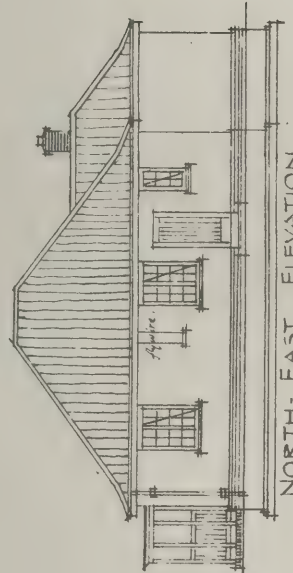
BUNGALOWS AT DANBURY ESSEX for MRS. MARGARET A. HILLEN

DRAWING No.4

THIS IS ONE OF THE DRAWINGS
DESIGNED IN THE SPECIFICATION
AND REFERRED TO IN OUR
TENDER DATED:-



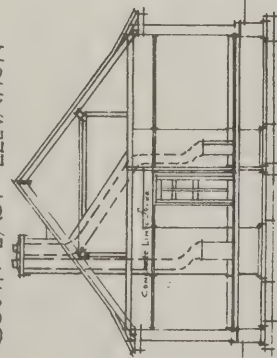
SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION



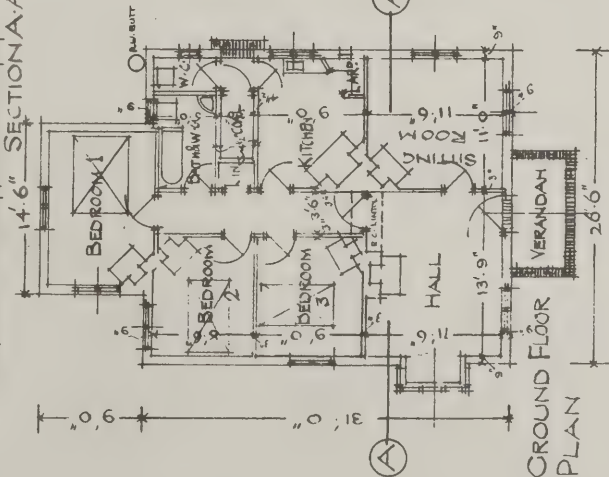
NORTH-EAST ELEVATION



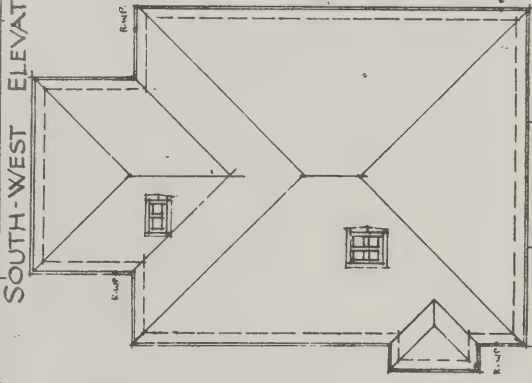
NORTH-WEST ELEVATION



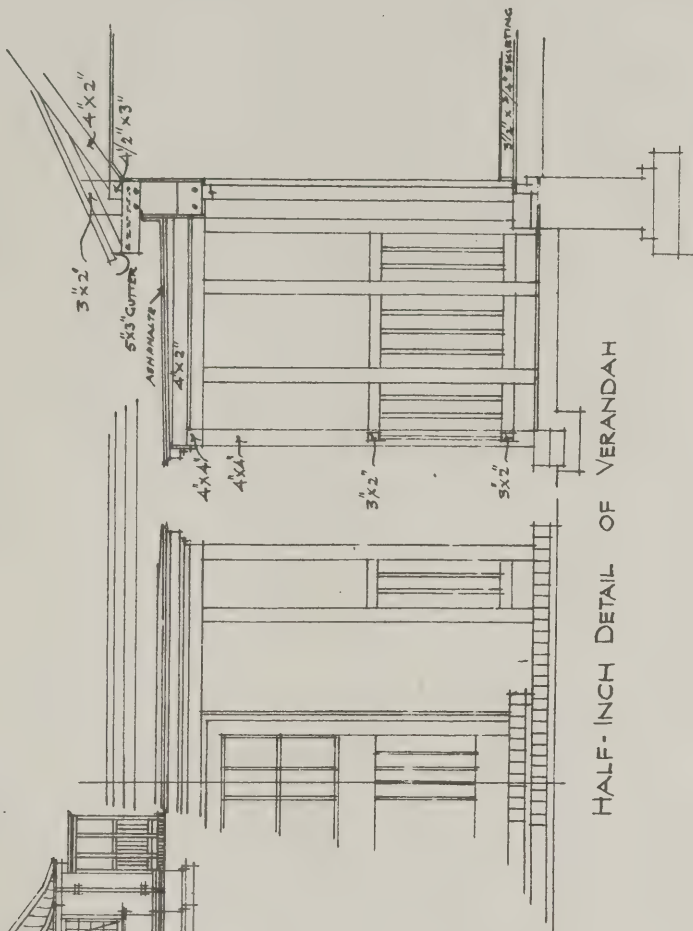
SECTION A-A



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



ROOF PLAN



HALF-INCH DETAIL OF VERANDAH

J.F. PULFORD L.S.A. } ARCHITECTS
R.H. MINTY A.R.B.A. }
35 CRAVEN STREET, CHANCERY CROSS, W.C.2
MAY 1923

"PHOTO-LITHO" W.W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

BUNGALOWS AT DANBURY, ESSEX.

J. F. PULFORD AND R. J. H. MINTY, ARCHITECTS.

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THE ARCHITECT, JANUARY 25th, 1924.





INA PHOTO: WM BROWN & CO LTD LONDON E.C.3.

NEW BANKING PREMISES, PALL MALL (BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED).

MESSRS. ARTHUR BLOMFIELD AND A. J. DRIVER, ARCHITECTS.

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Our Illustrations.

- A HOUSE AT LIMPSFIELD. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.
 A HOUSE AT SALTWOOD. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.
 A HOUSE AT SEVENOAKS. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.
 PROPOSED HOUSE FOR MESSRS. CHARTERIS & HILL. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.
 HOUSE AT KINGSTON HILL, COOMBE, SURREY. HAROLD E. MOSS, Architect.
 COTTAGE NEAR PORTSMOUTH. EASTON & ROBERTSON, Architects.
 DESIGN FOR A BUNGALOW. S. MAURICE EVANS, Architect.
 BUNGALOWS AT DANBURY, ESSEX. PULFORD & MINTY, Architects.
 NEW BANKING PREMISES, PALL MALL. ARTHUR BLOMFIELD & A. J. DRIVER, Architects.
 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, MICHAELGATE, YORK. By JOSEPH PIKE.

House near Portsmouth.

EASTON & ROBERTSON, A.R.I.B.A., S.A.D.G.,
 36 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

This house was designed to provide the maximum accommodation for a definite sum which could not be exceeded. The architects' problem was to evolve a house which could be built complete with gas, electric light, and drainage, for not more than £850, and which would contain large living room, dining room, kitchen and services, and four bedrooms and small dressing room.

Economy was naturally the first consideration throughout, and extreme simplicity characterises both construction and finish. The walls of the ground floor are left unplastered and finished in distemper. The ceilings are of asbestos throughout, and the doors are all of cottage type, ledged and braced. The living room fireplace is built in 2 in. blue bricks. Dark brown Fontley sand-faced tiles are used for the roof, and the 11 in. hollow walls are roughcast. The floors are of wood, except in hall, kitchen and services, which are formed of brown quarries. Hope's metal casements were used throughout. The house was completed in February of this year.

Houses at Kingston Hill, Surrey.

HAROLD E. MOSS, A.R.I.B.A., Architect,
 5 Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

These houses were erected between April, 1922, and February, 1923, on a charming spot high up and immediately adjoining Richmond Park and Coombe Woods and adjacent to Wimbledon Common.

They are planned for people of moderate means and can be run at a pinch without a maid, care being taken to eliminate as far as possible unnecessary labour.

Each house has a sitting room, dining room and small study, with four bedrooms and the usual offices.

They are built with 11 in. hollow walls of Fletton bricks, colour washed.

Two of them are fitted with "Crittall's" standard metal windows built in; the remainder have double hung sash windows. Each has been separately planned to suit the individual requirements of the owners, but care has been taken to give them a strong family likeness while at the same time each has its own individuality.

A superior cottage character has been aimed at, and interest has been given to the row by the different colour schemes made possible by the use of colour wash and the different coloured paints of the shutters and front doors.

Half of the houses obtain their hot water supply from "Sentry Boilers," with the cooking by "Stimex" gas cookers; while the remainder have "Magician" anthracite ranges, which serve both purposes admirably.

Only one open fire is provided to each house and that is the sitting room, elsewhere gas fires are built in.

The roofs are covered with English green slates in diminishing courses, or Welsh grey slates in graduated courses.

All the houses were put out to limited tender and all were built by Mr. C. W. King, of New Malden, Surrey.

All the joinery was made to the architect's details by the contractor.

The cost averages 1s. 3d. per foot cube for each house, including drainage and fencing, and a certain amount of polished oak flooring to each house is included in this sum.

Bungalows at Danbury, Essex.

PULFORD & MINTY, Architects.
 35 Craven Street, Charing Cross, W.C.2.

The sketches illustrated show the bungalows already built. The complete scheme is for the development of a site of some fifteen acres in extent. Each bungalow has a frontage of from 55 feet to 65 feet, and a depth of 120 feet to 150 feet, giving an approximation of six to the acre.

The walls are built of concrete bricks rendered externally with roughcast coloured cream, and the roofs covered with concrete interlocking tiles. Both the bricks and tiles have been made on the site by Mr. Benj. W. R. Hillen from sand and ballast obtained therefrom.

The bathrooms are lined with white glazed tiles and the floors of the halls and bathrooms are laid with "Marbolith" jointless flooring.

The joinery was manufactured by Messrs. Rippers of Castle Heddingham, sanitary fittings by Dent and Hellyer, ironmongery by James Gibbons and Co., and mantels and interiors by Messrs. George Wright; the kitchen ranges are Messrs. Hartley and Sugden's patent "Thermostove."

The general contractors for the work are Messrs. The Concrete Products Ltd., of 175 Piccadilly, and Great Baddow, Essex, which has been carried out under the direct supervision of the architects.

Kinnaird House, Pall Mall.

MESSRS. ARTHUR BLOMFIELD & DRIVER, F.F.R.I.B.A., Architects.

The entire ground floor and basement is occupied by Barclay's Bank, who own the building, which is a Crown lease. The upper floors are let to various tenants. Messrs. Trollope and Colls were the general contractors and the Cranham partition blocks were supplied by Messrs. Sankey and Son of Essex Wharf, Canning Town. Messrs. The Crittall Manufacturing Co., Braintree and London, were responsible for the casements. The steel construction was carried out by the Aston Construction Co., and Hart, Son, Peard and Co., of Berners Street, London, W., supplied the door and window furniture, ornamental metal work and ironmongery. "Heolin," manufactured by Hadfields of Merton, was used throughout. Messrs. G. and A. Brown of Hammer-smith executed the decorative plaster work. Sanitary fittings were supplied by Messrs. Mathew Hall and Co. The stone carving was executed by Messrs. H. H. Martyn and Co., Ltd., Cheltenham, and Messrs. J. Whitehead and Sons. The lifts were manufactured and installed by Messrs. Waygood-Otis Co., Ltd., 54-55 Fetter Lane, E.C., and Falmouth Road, S.E. The heating plant was carried out by Messrs. Richard Crittall and Co., 43 Bloomsbury Square. Grates and chimneypieces were fitted by Messrs. G. Mathews, New Cavendish Street. The contractors also executed the fireproof construction flooring and joinery works.

Messrs. J. & W. Dixon propose to erect 36 houses at Sealburns. The Ryton Urban District Council have passed the necessary plans in respect to these houses.

The plans for 32 houses in Beresford Road and Elsdon Road, Rusholme, have been passed by the Manchester Corporation Buildings Committee.

The Rotherham Town Council have passed the following plans for houses: four in Moorgate Road, two in Broom Road, a bungalow and two houses in Boswell Street, a house in Clough Road.

Messrs. Thomas Bros., of Chadderton, are to build 16 houses in Springfield Lane, Royton. The Urban District Council have passed the plans and granted £100 subsidy in respect to each house.



HOUSE AT GERRARD'S CROSS. WILLS & KAULA, Architects.

Notes and Comments.

Canadian Architecture.

Mr. Percy Nobbs gave a most interesting and well-composed paper on Canadian Architecture at the R.I.B.A. on the 21st. He referred to the influence of the different divisions into which Canadian architects may be divided—the native-born Canadian, who usually follows American methods or is partly trained in America, the English-born architect who often comes to Canada without great experience, and the American immigrant trained in the United States. Of the three groups he considers that the English-born architect paid most regard to the natural development of architectural style, modified and governed by climatic wants and requirements. He was inclined to think that American influence was too closely affiliated and controlled by the tradition of the *Ecole des Beaux Arts*, a criticism which is probably partly justified, though we should be inclined to think that Americans were too practical to neglect any public want. But with regard to style they are often a little overweighted by precedent, and having to adopt a precedent they have certainly kept fairly rigidly to that taught by the *Ecole des Beaux Arts*.

There is another reason for following American types to which Mr. Nobbs did not allude, and that is climatic considerations. If we take the United States and Canada we should not be far wrong in stating that similar climates obtained for many hundred miles along parallels of latitude. Thus the maritime Provinces—Maine, Massachusetts and New York—are very similar in having intense cold and great heat, while the climate of the Middle West on both sides of the border is much the same, as are also the conditions along the Pacific Coast, including Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, and California differs only in degree. It is not until we consider the littoral of the Gulf of Mexico and that of Hudson's Bay that very great differences of climate north and south are experienced, while along the parallels of latitude what is suitable on one side of the boundary is, generally speaking, suitable on the other.

When we compare Canadian architecture with that of Australia we have reason to be very thankful for the effects of American influence, and are inclined to think that, for the reasons we have stated, Canadian architecture is more likely to end in being a variant of that of America than a distinct growth, though it may be modified by a greater proportional influx of English influence.

Labour and Housing.

With the advent of a Labour Government—although one almost devoid of power and existing on the sufferance of men who obtained the vote of the electorate by promising to oppose Socialism—we may expect to hear a good deal about State housing. Probably the other parties, both of which have committed themselves by past meddling with the laws of Demand and Supply, will give the Labour Government rope in this particular, because it costs nothing to do so except in the form of taxation. The period of difficulty is therefore likely to be prolonged because private enterprise can alone deal with the demand, and, profiting by experience, private enterprise will hold its hand until the last attempt of governmental interference has been made and has—as it will—failed. Already we hear talk of a further extension of that evil, the control of rents, one of the most iniquitous acts of injustice, unaccompanied as it was by compensation for the landlord, that any English Government has ever made law.

It would be refreshing if any of our rulers would, for a change, exhibit a little justice and common sense in these matters, but we shall probably not be wrong in anticipating further wild cat proposals.

The Repair of Roads.

The public roads in many parts of the country are very much in want of thorough efficient repair. But we hear that a difficulty arises from the new Road Board's inclination to allot funds for the building of new roads instead of the repair of existing ones. As a great part of the damage



HOUSE ON KINGSTON HILL, COOMBE, SURREY. HAROLD E. MOSS, ARCHITECT.

HOUSE ON KINGSTON HILL, COOMBE, SURREY.
HAROLD E. MOSS, ARCHITECT.

is caused by an excess of fast motor traffic, and part of the Road Board's funds come out of the petrol tax it seems unreasonable and unfair that its money should not very largely be expended in contributions to the cost of maintaining existing roads. It should be borne in mind that a new road, the extensive use of which depends on the formation of a new habit, is not likely to be in such great or immediate demand as an existing road, and not until these are satisfactorily dealt with should money be spent in the construction of new roads, the necessity for which has been much exaggerated.

Building Exhibition, Olympia.

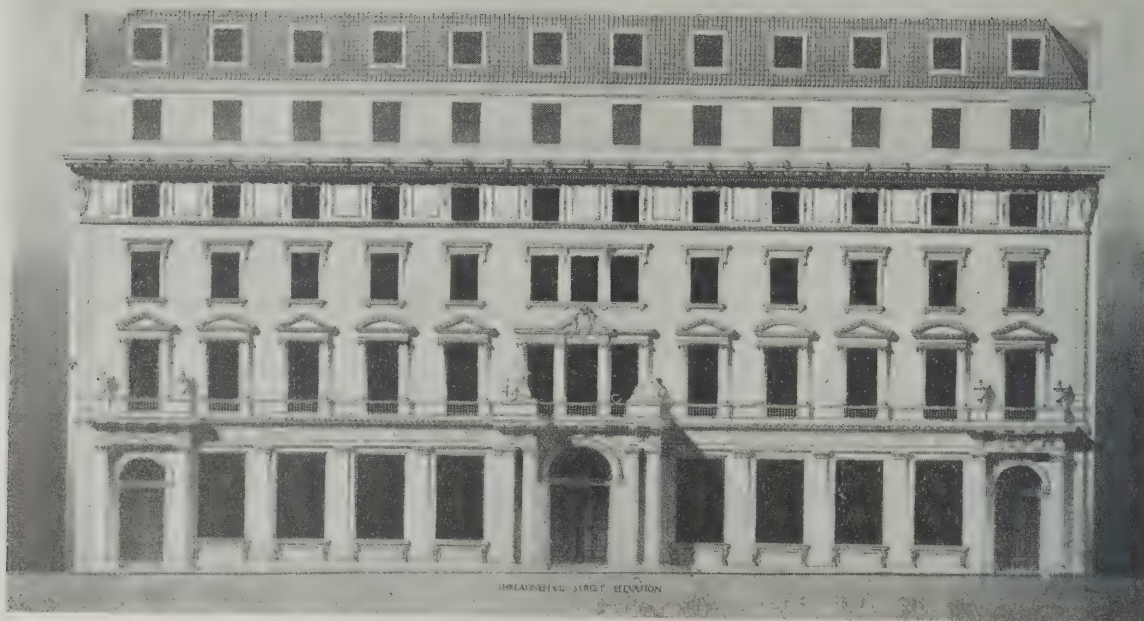
April 11 to 26.

Barring strikes and political disturbances, 1924 holds every prospect of being a boom year for the building industry, the constantly increasing demand for general building, to say nothing of that class that comes under the term "luxury," makes it imperative that, at all costs, the industry must rapidly proceed. There is little prospect of prices falling much lower, and work that has been held up owing to the difficulty of exact estimating is now being pushed rapidly forward. The Building Exhibition which opens in April next is being more keenly anticipated by the architect and builder than ever before, for he is not only able to come into direct touch with the manufacturer and to actually handle the goods, but can obtain competitive prices for the hundred and one items incidental to the building trade. There is no finality about the Building Exhibition; it grows yearly, not only in importance, but in the elaborate structures erected to display the exhibits to the best advantage.

Since the last Exhibition was held in 1922, Olympia has had to considerably extend its boundaries, and an additional hall, covering half the extent of the old building, has been erected at a cost of some £450,000. The promoters of the Building Exhibition had the option of having these additional premises, and, in anticipation of rapidly developing building interests, they welcomed the opportunity of providing further accommodation for their clients. Their foresight has been justified in that the whole space of the new building—in addition to that of the old one—has already been packed with exhibits directly appertaining to the Building industry. Everything points to the forthcoming Exhibition being the biggest and most comprehensive of the series held since 1895; as regards wood-working machinery every firm in this country, with one exception, is represented.

It is intended this year to revive the competitions for craftsmen which proved so popular a feature in the old Agricultural Hall more than thirty years ago, and all the Trades Training Schools are being asked to compete. A Committee to arrange the details has been formed, consisting of Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, President of the R.I.B.A., Mr. Stanley Hall, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Architectural Association, Mr. E. J. Partridge, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Society of Architects, Mr. Roland Chessum, Ex-President of the Institute of Builders, Sir Banister Fletcher, F.R.I.B.A., Director, Trades Training School, Great Titchfield Street, W., and Mr. T. P. Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., of the Northern Polytechnic Institute.

The Bradford Corporation passed the following plans for houses: In Allerton Road, 104 houses for the Bradford Council of Social Service; in Highfield Avenue and Highfield Road, Idle, Mr. A. Robinson is building 18 houses; in the same locality—namely, in Wrose Road—12 houses are to be built for Mr. W. A. Newell; six houses are to be erected for Messrs. Dickinson & Scott in Wellington Road, Eccleshill.



NEW WESTMINSTER & PARR'S BANK, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON. MEWES & DAVIS, Architects.

Architectural Thought, 1924.

FOREWORD.

The Press has made us fully aware that this is a period of reconstruction, and the phrase has become so hackneyed and used so abstractly, that one is sometimes tempted to forget the special significance that the practical application of Reconstruction has for architects.

Between the point of view of the public and that of the profession, there is a great gulf fixed.

The former is apt to content itself with the thought that buildings passed as safe and healthy by district surveyors and sanitary engineers leave nothing more to be required, unless it be that they should ape the glories of a departed style, in which case many firms can decorate and finish their buildings in a manner so traditionally correct, that few architects could compete with their accurate transcription of the past. Thus it is that the public, after the manner of Admiral Sir Percy Scott, is wont to whisper, "What is the use of an architect?"

The profession, on the other hand, has certain ideals, which through some circumstance or other it is rarely allowed to pursue.

Most architects have their own carefully formulated views, but owing to other people's wishes or reasons of finance, they are perforce obliged to remain in their grooves and erect buildings whose ultimate appearance differs widely from original conceptions. "Si monumenta vis, circumspecte."

During these last few years there has been a feeling of growing dissatisfaction in the air; modern conditions are making it clear that the old order passeth. The time is ripe for change.

But in architecture we know the change must be one of evolution and not revolution.

No new style can be suddenly invented, and tradition cannot readily be laid aside.

To steer a course between the Scylla of a dead style that is artificially kept alive by slavish copyism and the Charybdis of conceited originality requires no small amount of insight on the part of practising architects.

There seems to be, however, a general desire on the part of all concerned that design and decoration should be simplified.

This is doubtless the outcome of a revulsion of feeling against the tawdry finery that the jerry-builder showered on his creations with such a calculated lack of discrimination.

But when architects begin to cry out for "simplicity of effect" and "purity of line," then it becomes apparent

that something—something which is not merely on the surface—is radically wrong. It shows, further—and this is the important point—that we are now in a receptive state of mind; and being dissatisfied with the trappings of the past, are prepared to receive some new development in the evolution of architectural form.

Simplicity is so often the forerunner of innovations. Beauty of form becomes more easily discernible, while complexity can only be achieved with success in the hands of great masters.

But before any change can take place, we must be guided by some impulse which will give our building enterprise a vital quality.

Conquests and colonisation, religion and classic revivals have all combined to furnish previous inspirations, but can these factors be called to our aid at the present moment?

To-day we are faced with Reconstruction.

New impulses must be derived from commercial activity and the possible expansion of modern industrial needs. The State is realising how much time has been lost and wasted in the last fifteen years, and we well know its efforts with regard to the Housing problem.

What has to be done must be achieved with the utmost speed.

We have nowadays a greater knowledge of sound technique, and a greater variety of materials at our disposal.

These advantages all make for change, but they alone can accomplish little, unless conditions of life occasion a change of thought and outlook as well.

In order to form some opinion of the trend of modern architecture we have obtained the views of various well-known leading architects on this subject:—

MR. ARTHUR DAVIS.

Mr. Davis, who besides being an architect is also an archaeologist, naturally has leanings towards the academic and traditional, and his schemes are usually based on some period.

Take, for example, his designs for the decoration of the "Aquitania." The majority of passengers are American, who would in all probability desire to see something of English art and taste. Hence they were given naught but English styles taken from the finest examples of our national architecture. Period furniture and old prints were added to give that sense of homogeneity which makes every part bear a definite relation to the whole composition. However, in the work that Mr. Davis has executed in the French vessel "La France," a certain modernity and departure from tradition has been achieved, but in the opinion of the designer the effect of discounting the value of "style" has not been so successful from an artistic standpoint as in the former case.



CHURCH OF THE ARMENIANS, LONDON.
MEWES & DAVIS, Architects.

A good example of the manner in which Mr. Davis approaches a problem is afforded by his match factory near Liverpool. Before preparing any elevation designs he studied the forms of the structural steelwork with a view to obtaining an indication of how the treatment of surface might be most suitably effected. Surprising as it may seem, the steel framework suggested the forms of Assyrian temples; hence the result has been an excellent design in which the note of colour—terra-cotta surfaces with bands of enrichment—has played the dominant part.

Thus, with no affectation, or attempt to make a match factory look like anything but what it is, we have a motif culled from the past, which has been suitably adapted to modern purposes. The façade of the R.A.C. is frankly Louis XIV, while its swimming bath suggests a Roman origin, though it is, in fact, perfectly up-to-date in appearance.

The Massimi Palace is the thought behind the New Westminster and Parr's Bank, Threadneedle Street, while the Church of the Armenians is directly copied from an Armenian prototype.

No hard and fast rules are laid down with regard following a Renaissance or Gothic tradition.

A Gothic billiard-room in Mayfair is as out of place as a Neo-Grec cottage in the Cotswolds.

Each modern problem needs some new and original expression, but once the conception is evolved, Mr. Davis would have it clothed in academic dress.

MR. BAILLIE SCOTT.

Mr. Baillie Scott, whose domestic work is well known, emphasises the importance of understanding the past. This understanding should not be for the purpose of transcription, but in order that one may exercise discrimination in following any particular style.

Once having selected a special period, it is then permissible—perhaps imperative—that additions and developments suitable for modern requirements should be introduced.

Styles are good or bad according to the manner in which they are treated, and there are various features, such as panelling, which might be used with advantage in domestic work without any direct relation to period or style.

Mr. Scott is of opinion that no particular tradition should be followed as a principle; each case must decide for itself. Such factors as suitability of site and the mode of living adopted by the client are all points which must be taken into account. To express the individuality of a client is a matter to which Mr. Scott has paid great attention.

He recalled Kipling's line, which might well apply to the owner of a finely proportioned Georgian mansion:—

"I am all that ever went with evening dress."

In this connection he holds the view that so much present-day building is of a "reach-me-down" order, and Housing schemes look so absolutely "ready-made." Turned out on a standard pattern, they express very little of the individual needs of their inmates.

One interesting point that Mr. Scott brings forward is the importance of building technique.

With regard to small work, design should take second place to craftsmanship. Nowadays craftsmanship may become so perfect in its mechanical accuracy that it appears "cast iron" in quality, and the character of old work is lost.

It will readily be understood how difficult it is to preserve that character and at the same time avoid affectations.

An example of a modern addition to some old work may be seen in the illustration of Noddys Hall, Merstham.

MR. A. W. S. CROSS.

Mr. Cross' views on the development of modern architecture are best expressed by a survey of his work. If it were possible to see all his designs ranged side by side with other contemporary buildings, it would at once become apparent that a certain tradition was being consistently upheld, and successfully exploited to modern uses.

The steady continuity of English Renaissance architecture was broken at the close of the eighteenth century, and it is in an endeavour to carry on that Renaissance tradition and bring it up to date that Mr. Cross has devoted his energies.

The Georgian period is one that may well be followed, as in its time sound building combined with artistic merit had reached a very high level, and it is a form of modernised Georgian that Mr. Cross pursues.

However, emphasis is laid on the fact that there has been great improvement recently in modern building and design. This is especially true with regard to liners. Perhaps our greatest advance has been shown in plaster work, where craftsmanship has attained a high degree of excellence.

Attention is drawn to the unsuitability of the Gothic style for present-day purposes in our English climate. Pointed windows,



NODDYS HALL, MERSTHAM.
BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

with their accompanying heavy tracery, which serves to obscure the light, might be cited as an example in support of this contention.

Perhaps the keynote of Mr. Cross's views is his abhorrence of all forms of sham. Holding to the theory of Ruskin's Lamp of Truth, he quoted many examples of architectural insincerities, among which was the employment of ingle-nooks, that should have been dropped with the advent of coal. Very often the anachronism of a radiator in the same room proclaims this

old-time method of heating to be not only unscientific, but also a mere affectation.

Mr. Cross will sanction real panelling if it can be afforded, but would prefer to see plain plaster walls papered or distempered rather than covered with the spurious imitations of wainscoting which abound in so many "make believe" rooms to-day.

There is a tendency to overdo modern decoration with its wavy lines and profuse enrichments, which successfully nullify any attempt at repose being effected in our cinemas, hotels, and public thoroughfares.

On the whole, it may be said that originality in modern architecture has not yet justified our breaking with tradition.

MR. STANLEY HAMP.

On the subject of modernity in architecture, Mr. Hamp admits a desire for progress.

Owing to various factors such as the use and employment of new materials, and the knowledge that there is no prototype for so many of our new constructive works, he considers that this is an age when we may justly sweep away much of the past.



WOOD GREEN ALMSHOUSES. A. W. S. Cross, Architect.

New forms and style will gradually grow out of modern building methods.

If there is to be any artistic change it will come from a desire to simplify. Could one but eradicate all the unnecessary decoration, which is everywhere to be seen, our conceptions would be so much more readily appreciated, and a far finer effect secured.

Our street architecture shorn of vulgar enrichments might assume quite a pleasing aspect when its true unadorned form was discovered.

Mr. Hamp would like to see decoration confined to one or two special features alone, such as a good doorway or splendid cornice, whose value would be so greatly enhanced were they but set amid calm and plane surfaces.

Composition and proportion should be relied on to obtain the finest effects.

The Stadshus, at Stockholm, by Raquar Ostberg, a fine combination of all the arts, furnishes us with a good example of modern expression in building.

Though we have described Mr. Hamp's views as progressive, this does not mean that the value of tradition is unrecognised for the purposes of scholarly clothing. A thorough knowledge of precedence is essential for students before any originality is attempted.

If there is to be any coherence in our street architecture, it is desirable that main horizontal lines should be carried through the whole scheme, and that buildings should not be treated as isolated blocks, each striking a new and entirely different note.

Mr. Hamp would like to see the ground and mezzanine floors of very high buildings treated as a band of decoration, above which is a plain surface without other enrichment until the

cornice level is reached, the whole being based on the usual classic proportion.

In short, we may say that a moderate form of change, based on simplicity and proportion, is here advocated.

PROFESSOR RICHARDSON.

We are able to state Professor Richardson's views from a carefully reasoned paper, which he read at the last ordinary general meeting of the Architectural Association.

One must remember that Professor Richardson has devoted many years to the study of architectural history, and it is no mere whim or exercise of the fancy that has caused him to propound a theory, which though by no means revolutionary, is certainly a distinct development in the advancement of architectural thought.

Being able to judge the mistakes of the past, he has acquired a new viewpoint from which alone a vision of the future may be obtained.

Modernity in building, with its necessary adjunct of vitality, must be effected by a study of humanity.

Mere scholasticism by itself, or design purely from construction, will not accomplish the desired results, nor can we copy the past for modern requirements.

New needs undreamt of in past history will dictate new forms; one has only to think for a moment of railway stations, or even the subject of acoustics, to appreciate that "use and purpose alone are functionally articulate."

One has but to remember that the ideals of history have been relegated to the past by the scientific achievement of the nineteenth century.

Mere decoration squandered without relation to the growth of structural parts is one of the chief faults which underlie and retard the progress of building.

Unless we would be at the mercy of fashion, we must keep before us the ideal of the "vitality of expression and function through necessity." On the other hand it would be dangerous "to invent without the inspiration of purpose combined with spiritual impulse."

What, then, is wanting, if we are to rid ourselves of copyism or "old-new" styles?

The answer to all these problems (without which so much criticism is barren) may be briefly summed up by saying that "form is the true manifestation of structure." The significance of this aphorism will, we hope, form the basis of another paper by Professor Richardson.

The hope was expressed that architecture would become the "special acquisition of coteries of specialists," who would subordinate individualism to collective effort.

Professor Richardson prophesies that in ten years' time legislation in our large towns will ensure a certain homogeneity in our building output; and taking the human form as the basis of proportion, we may hope for an exposition of art, in which structure, form and colour will combine to make our national architecture the envy of the building world.

SUMMARY.

To sum up the opinions of the above-mentioned architects is no easy task, if one is to avoid using well-worn platitudes. To say that modern problems cannot be solved by copying the past, but need up-to-date treatment, is like stating that there is nothing so saponific as soap. Yet it is a fact that architects are finding that they must draw more and more on their imaginations if they are to meet the needs of the present, and that modern economics do not so readily admit of academical precedent.

Most are in agreement that before all else, we must do away with superfluous decoration, and simplify instead of elaborate. Nevertheless, it is possible to dress buildings, however original in plan, in scholarly clothing, and by so doing preserve a continuity in our tradition.

It is essential to understand the meaning of the past, and, above all, judge its value; thus only can we realise its adaptability to the present and exercise a sure selection and elimination.

(To be continued.)

A meeting is to take place between the General Officer Commanding the Aldershot Command and members of the Aldershot Corporation for the purpose of discussing the possibility of a concerted action being taken between the Corporation and the War Office, to result in the erection of houses for the accommodation of officers.



WHITE LODGE, NORTHAMPTON. P. D. HEPWORTH, Architect.

The Architectural Association Year Book and Diary.

Last year, when this publication appeared, a feeling of disappointment was present. The Architectural Association is considered a very enterprising body, and it is inconceivable that they can possibly derive any great satisfaction from this effort. The Sketch Book published by them is a very admirable production. In this field of book and portfolio production they naturally can command a very able editorial supervision, and it is therefore all the more unfortunate that the Year Book and Diary should not offer more, and thus justify its production. As a financial success it may possibly be very good, but under

the auspices of the Architectural Association, we do not expect this to be a primary consideration.

R.I.B.A.

INTERCHANGE OF STUDENTS BETWEEN SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE.

The Council accepted the principle of the interchange of students between one recognised school and another on the understanding that, in the case of such students, exemption from the examinations of the Royal Institute would be granted only on the joint recommendation of the head of the school and the external examiner or examiners.

It was also decided that in the event of students from schools of architecture not recognised (for exemption from the examinations of the R.I.B.A.) entering a course at a recognised school, each application from such a student for exemption from the R.I.B.A. examinations should receive sympathetic consideration on its merits.

The National Federation of Building Trades' Employers and the National Federation of Building Trades' Operatives have accepted the invitation of the Council of the R.I.B.A. to appoint representatives to take part in a joint conference on the subject of the shortage of skilled labour in the building industry.

Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood was appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. at the Annual Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Liverpool in July, 1924.

The Wren Society.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—This Society, which was founded shortly after the Bicentenary Celebrations of February, 1923, for the purpose of publishing the drawings of Sir Christopher Wren and other documents throwing light on his work, has now in hand a portfolio to contain the drawings of St. Paul's in the All Souls' Collection, which will be issued with explanatory text as early as possible this year. It is hoped that many who have not already joined the Society will avail themselves of the opportunity of doing so now, since wider support will be needed to enable the Society to extend its activities to other subjects and other collections. Matter is abundantly available, but must remain little known till it can be reproduced. The annual subscription is one guinea, and subscribers will receive annually a portfolio of from 20 to 25 collotype plates with text. I shall be happy to send prospectus and subscription form to all who are interested.—Yours faithfully,

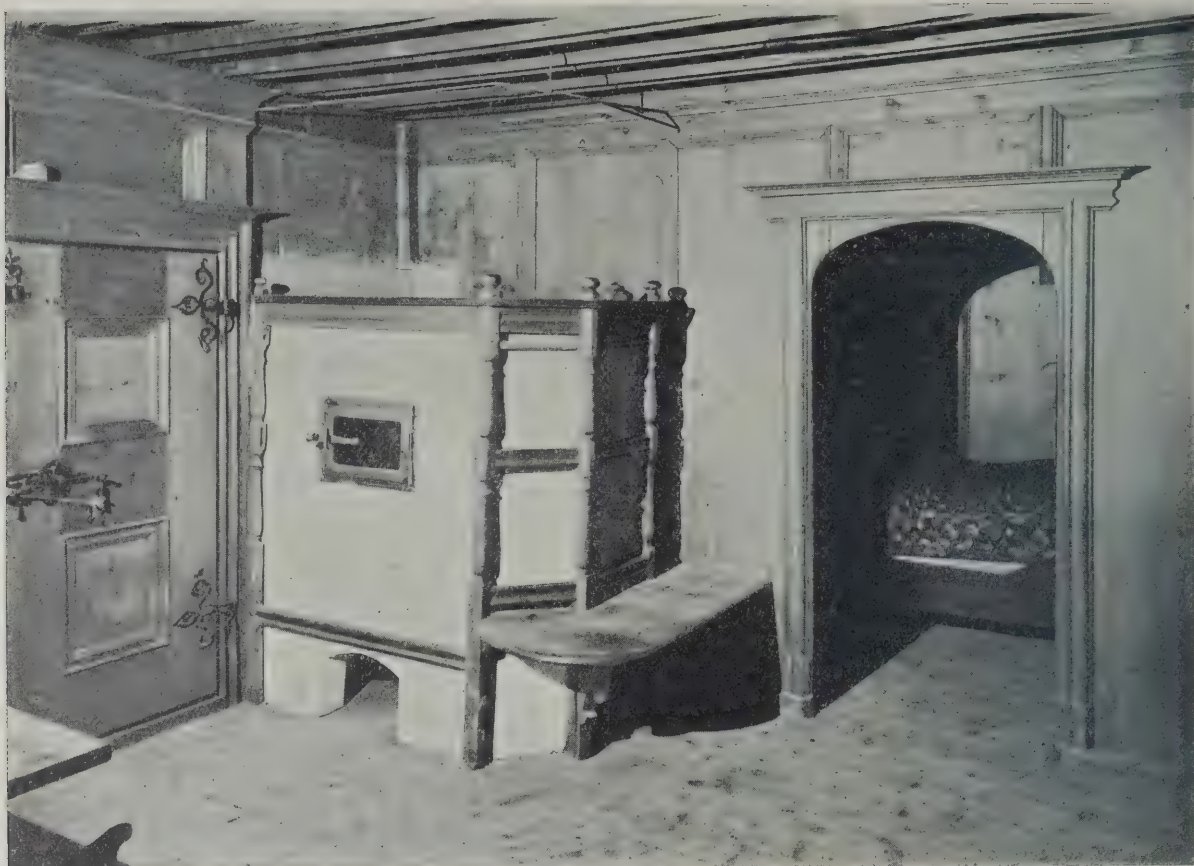
W. H. WARD, *Hon. Sec.*

2 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

January 18, 1924.



BUNGALOW AT CHALFONT ROAD. WILLS & KAULA, Architects.

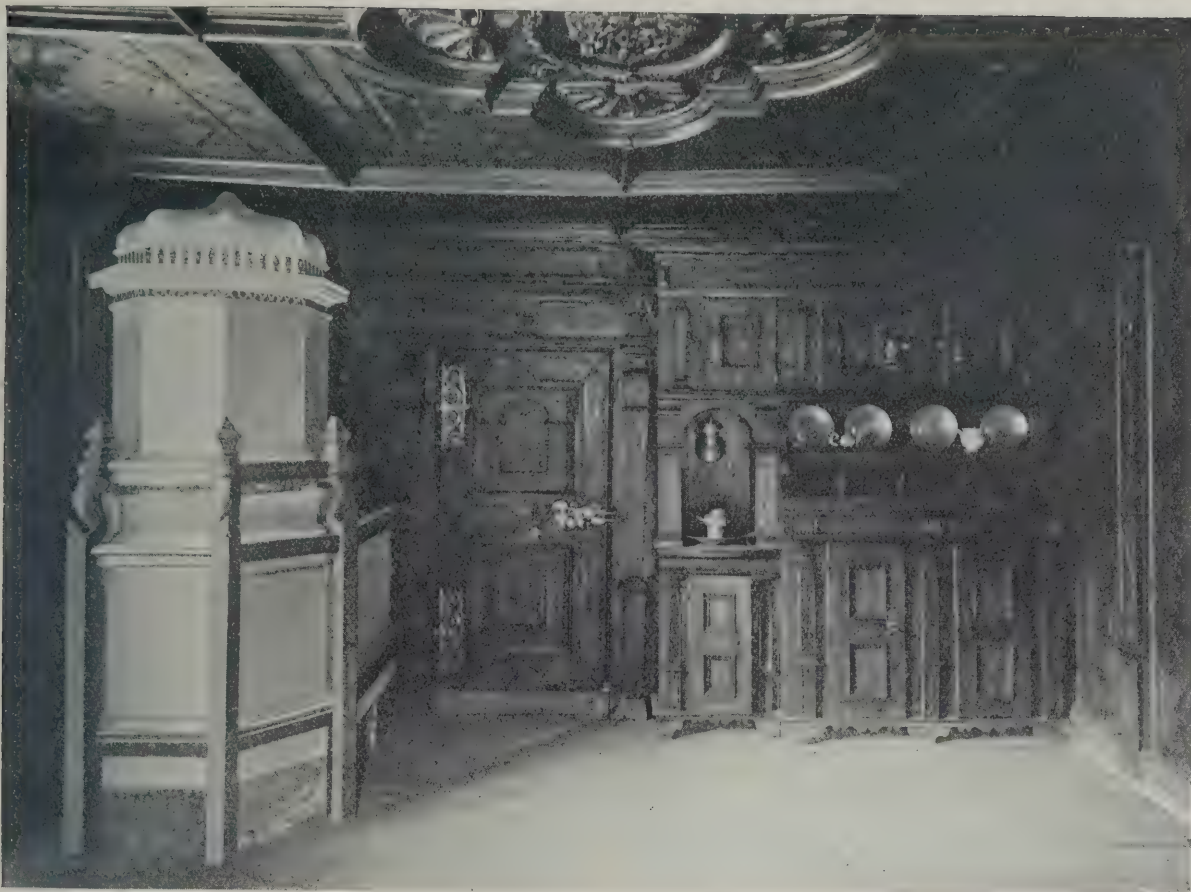


INTERIOR, SHOWING CORNER STOVE AND ALCOVE, AT PONTE, SWITZERLAND.

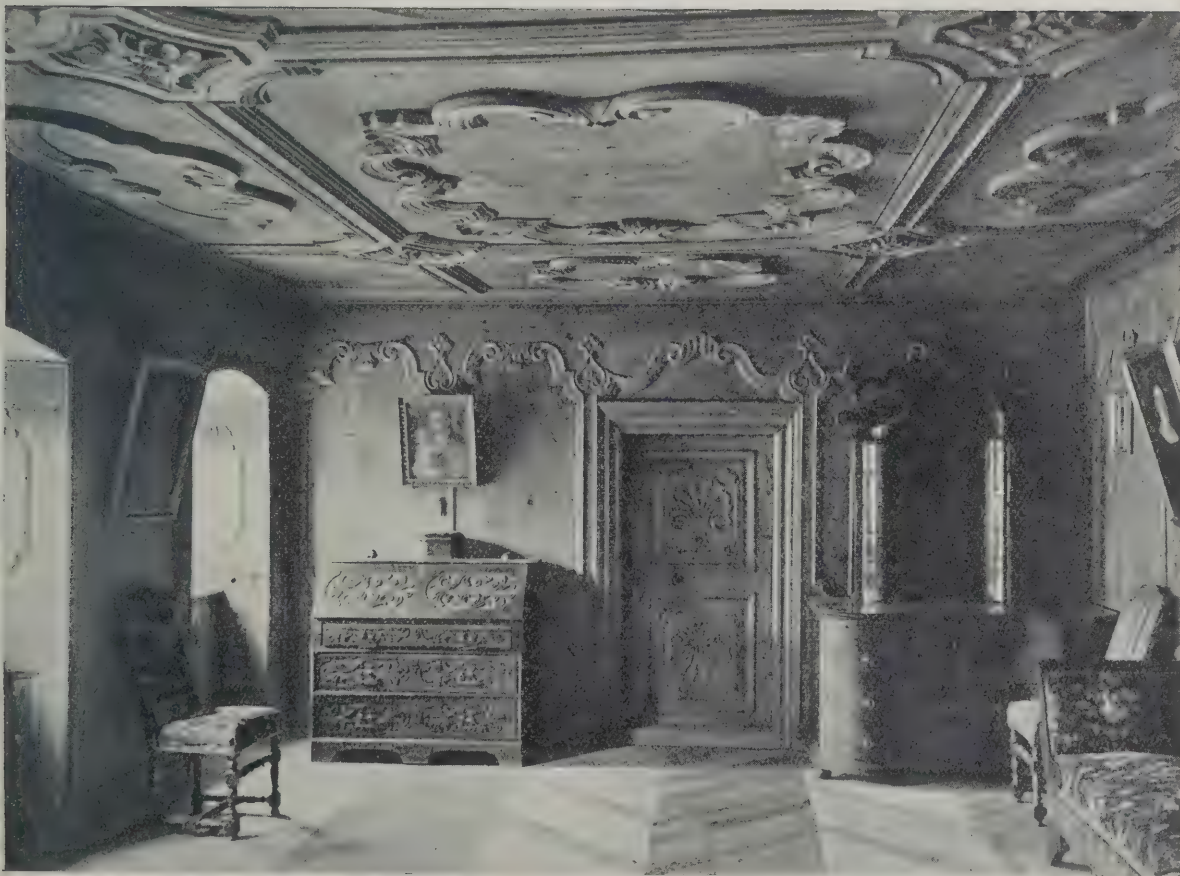


INTERIOR VIEW OF THE PLANTA HOUSE, ZUOZ, UPPER ENGADINE.

Photos by Albert Steiner, St. Moritz, Switzerland.

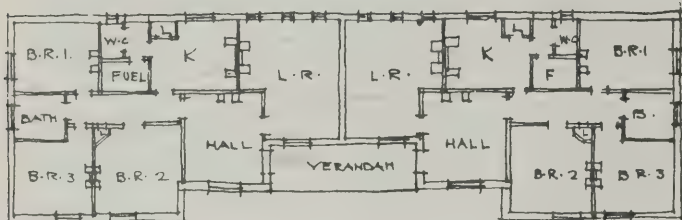
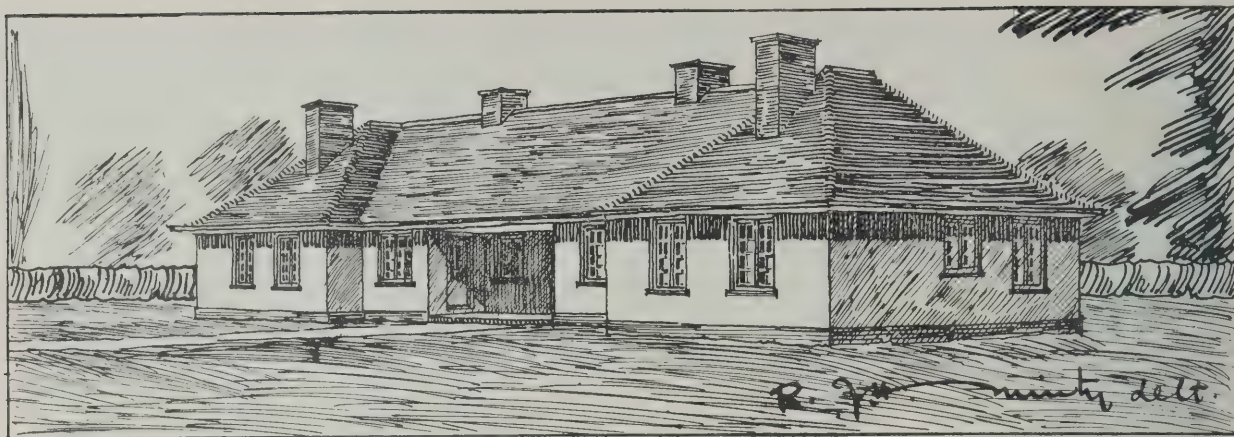


INTERIOR VIEW OF A HOUSE IN THE UPPER ENGADINE.



INTERIOR VIEW OF A HOUSE AT SAVOGNINO, OBERHALBSTEN, SWITZERLAND.

Photos by Albert Steiner, St. Moritz, Switzerland.



TWO BUNGALOWS AT DANBURY ESSEX for MRS. M.A. HILLEN TYPE "B"

R.J. HUGH MINTY A.R.C.D.A.,
J.F. PULFORD L.S.A.,
ARCHITECTS,
35 CRAVEN ST. CHANCING CROSS.

The Royal Sanitary Institute.

The Spring Term (1924) opens on January 28, at 5.30 p.m., with an introductory lecture by Charles Porter, M.D., B.Sc., Chairman of the Board of Examiners. A course of lectures for sanitary officers commences on Tuesday, January 29, at 6 p.m., the subject being the Public Health Acts. On February 1 the Public Health London Act will be the subject matter, and this will be followed on February 4 by a lecture on Factory and Workshops Acts. On Wednesday, February 6, the General Outdoor Duties of a Sanitary Inspector will be the paper, which will be supplemented by the Indoor Duties on February 8. On the following Monday the Duties of a Sanitary Inspector in respect to Offensive Trades and Trade Nuisances will be the title of the lecture.

These lectures will be given at 6 p.m. on the given dates by A. Wellesley Harris, M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, Lewisham.

Mr. Allen E. Munby, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., will lecture on February 13, 15, 18, and 20, on Elementary Science—Physics, Chemistry. W. W. Jameson, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer

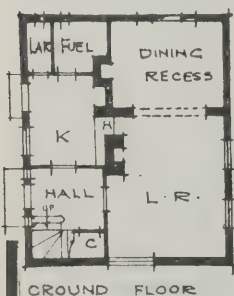
of Health, Finchley, will read two papers on February 22. The subject will be Water Composition, Pollution and Purification; and on the 25th of the same month, Elementary Statistics.

Two lectures of considerable interest to the profession of Architecture should be those held on March 3 and 5, Sanitary Appliances and House Drainage, respectively, by F. Wilkinson, M.Inst.C.E.

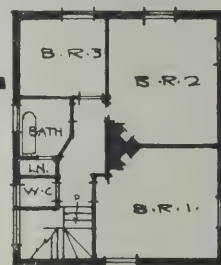
The Ebberley Lawn Nursing Home, Barnstaple, is being extended. Mr. T. C. Friend, architect, 33 Boutport Street, has prepared the necessary plans, which have been approved by the local authorities.

The Carshalton Urban District Council, who recently invited tenders for the erection of eight flats and twenty-eight houses, have accepted the offer submitted by Messrs. Smith & Morton, of West Norwood, whose price was £14,519.

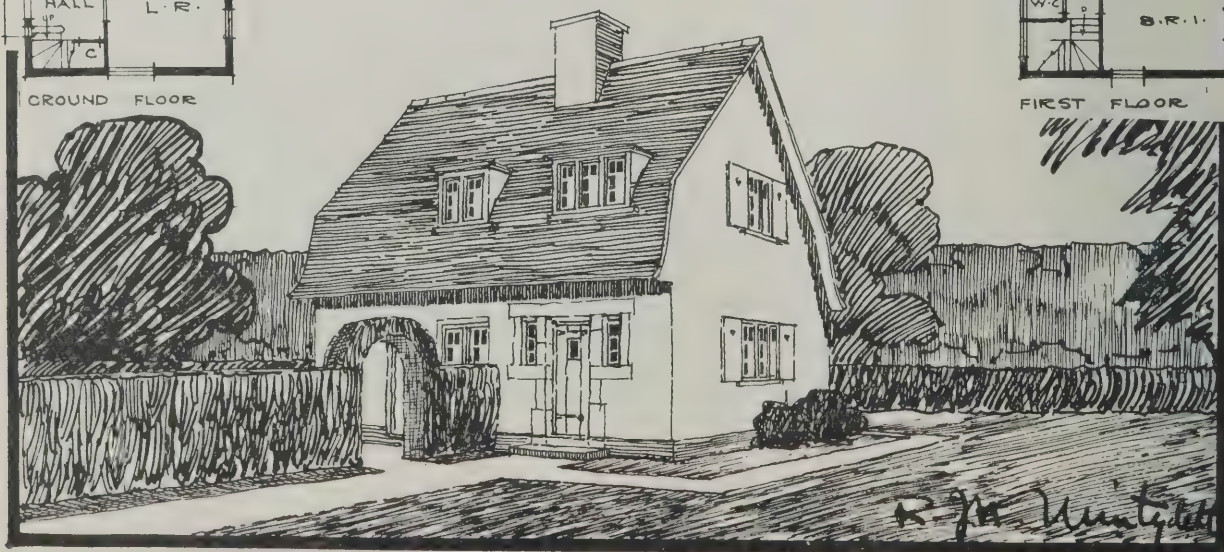
The builders at Motherwell are very busy. The Dean of Guild Court at their last meeting passed a record number of plans for the erection of cottages and private dwellings. The aggregate cost was well over £12,000.



GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR

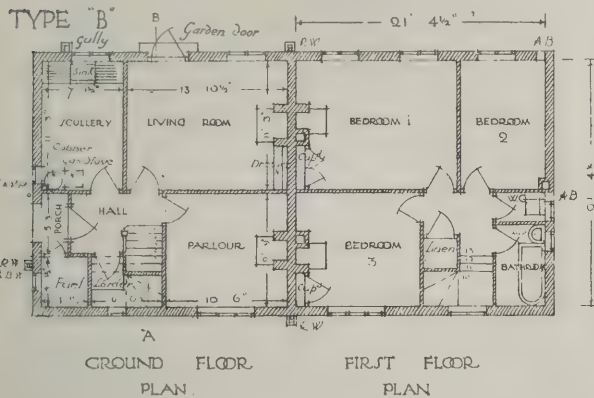
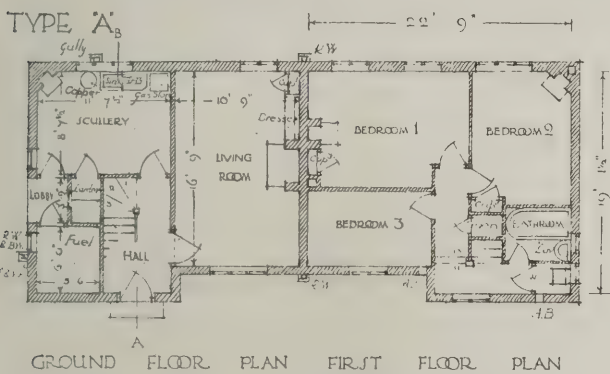


HOUSE AT DANBURY, ESSEX. J. F. PULFORD & R. J. H. MINTY, Architects.

25 PAIRS
SECTION 'D'

COTTAGES at NEW ELTHAM for the WOOLWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL

GORDON ALLEN R.I.B.A.
Architect
435 STRAND W.C.2



Woolwich Housing Scheme.

Economy was the first consideration in designing these cottages, fifty of which are now being built for the Woolwich Borough Council on their estate at Eltham. The contract price is thought to be a post-war record for this class of house.

As indicated on the layout plan, all cottages are in pairs. There are two main types of plan, and a monotonous effect will be further avoided by differences of material as well as by varied forms of chimney stacks and porches. External walling is of brickwork, either with a cavity or solid and roughcasted. Internal partitions are of concrete slabs. English sandfaced tiles will be used for all roofs, and the windows throughout are to be steel casements.

With regard to accommodation, each cottage contains a living-room with "Triplex" combination stove, a large scullery (entered direct from hall), larder and coal store. A parlour is provided in half of the houses. On the first floor, in all cases, there

are three bedrooms, a bathroom, separate w.c. and "hot" linen cupboard. Particular attention has been paid to the question of aspects, the parlour type plan being reversible.

The living-room stoves were supplied by Pryke & Palmer, Ltd., all other stoves and sanitary fittings by the K.C.B. Foundry Co., Ltd., and the door furniture by Alfred Brown & Co., of Birmingham. Messrs. Dawson, Jones & Rodgers, Ltd., are the general contractors, and Mr. Gordon Allen, F.R.I.B.A., is the architect.

New Books.

"Everyday Architecture." A sequence of essays addressed to the public by Manning Robertson, A.R.I.B.A., F.R.A.S., Deputy Chief Architect to the Ministry of Health Housing Department. T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd. 8s. 6d. net.

This is a pleasantly and easily written little book which will be found informative to the general public. The essays are separate, but interrelated, and cover The Triple Alliance (the builder, architect, and public opinion), The Public, Architecture and the Architect, the House Builder, Everyday Taste, The Great Government Housing Scheme, House Planning and Design, "Slippery Jane" (the fate of the shoddily built house), Smoke Filth and Fog, The Fireproof House, By-laws and a Proposal, Advertisements in Public Places, On Lies and Evasions, "Running No Risk," Saorstad Eirann, Sir Christopher Wren, Individualism, Socialism and Slums, and Houses for the Future.

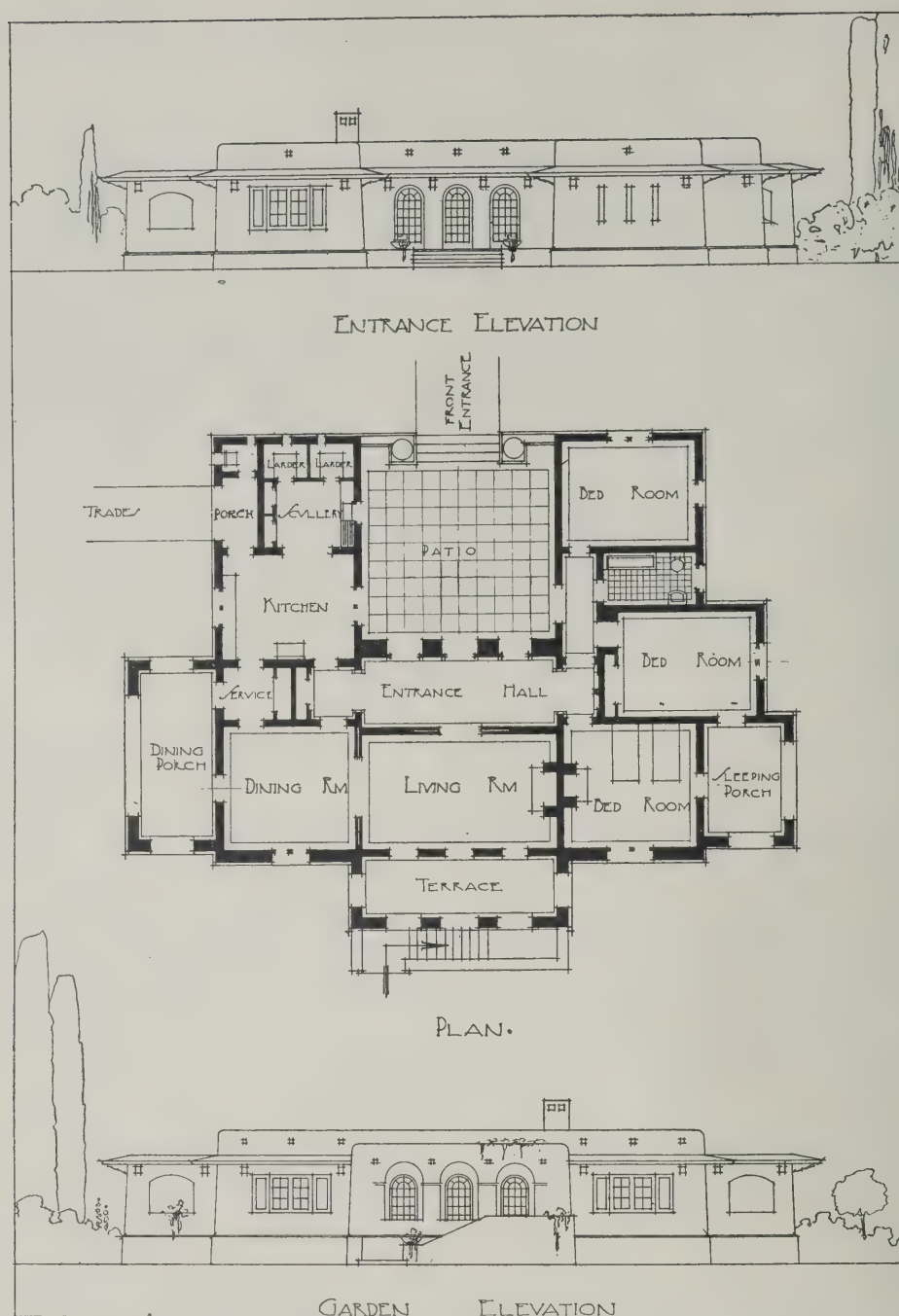
They are all pleasantly written, simple statements of common sense, and the book will, if it gets into the right hands, make the average man think that a great deal of the ugliness and discomfort of our daily lives is readily preventable.

Mr. Manning Robertson deplores the negative character of our By-laws, which he holds responsible for many mistakes; but it is difficult to see how they could be otherwise. What we really want everywhere is a special self-supporting tribunal which could deal with any special building proposal to allow the architect or owner permission to dispense with the by-laws in force if their reasonable objects had been attained in other ways. If some such tribunal could be appointed in every county the results might be beneficial, but, with a few trifling exceptions, we do not think the outcry against the existing local by-laws is justified.

An immense amount of good could easily be effected if people took a little interest in the subject of their surroundings, but it is doubtful if that interest can even be aroused unless some knowledge of architecture is required in the scholastic curriculum.

Mr. James Burford, A.R.I.B.A., has opened an office where he will carry on his practice at 3, Staple Inn, Holborn Bars, London, W.C.1.; his telephone number will be Holborn 1870.

The Working Men's Club at Cwmearn, Monmouthshire, is to be rebuilt. Full particulars are to be obtained from the secretary. It will be recalled that the former building was destroyed by fire.



BUNGALOW IN NEW ZEALAND. MESSRS. MASSEY & MORGAN, ARCHITECTS.

Housing.

South and West of England Housing.

Municipal house building had a quiet year at Lewisham in 1923. Private enterprise, on the other hand, was fairly active in Catford, Lee and other districts of the borough. Many houses were started and completed, and as they were erected for the purpose of selling, the fact that they are all occupied indicates that they must have found ready purchasers. The prospects for the new year are very promising, and the year is likely to produce a far greater number of houses erected by private enterprise. New foundations are being laid in Belmont Hill and Lee. At Bromley Hill several well-appointed houses are in the course of erection. Here the indications of a great activity are most apparent, and they extend right up to Grove Park. The need is still very great, and as many are still quite unable to procure suitable accommodation, 1924 should be a real boom year for housing.

The authorities at Hastings have passed the following plans for houses:—One in Sealescombe Road South (Messrs. Smee and Houchin, architects), a bungalow at Beaconsfield Road (Mr. J. Hunt, architect), three house in Clinton Crescent.

Thirty-six houses are to be erected in different parts of the Hazel Grove and Bramhall district. The Urban District Council have examined and passed the necessary plans.

The Town Council of Hove approved of the following housing plans at a recent meeting:—A bungalow in Portland Villas, a house and garage in Langdale Road, three pairs of semi-detached houses and 16 motor garages in Welbury Avenue, a house and garage in Hallyburton Road, a house in Prince's Crescent (Messrs. Young & Mackintosh, architects), two houses, Kingsway, at Saxon Road, and three houses, Kingsway, at Tandridge Road.

Workmen's houses are to be erected at Cheam, Surrey. Six acres of land are to be purchased and it is expected to erect ten houses to the acre.

The Epsom Rural Council have granted £43,000 in loans for the purpose of building houses in their district; this leaves a balance of £7,000 out of the £50,000 decided to be advanced. The provisional allotment of houses for each part of the district is as follows:—Ashted, 30; Banstead, 74; Bookham, 5; Cheam, 88; Chessington, 6; Cobham, 28; Ewell, 34; Fetcham, 10; Stoke D'Abernon, 5; and Woodmansterne, 6. It was agreed that the houses should all be of the non-parlour type, and should be for *bona-fide* local residents only.

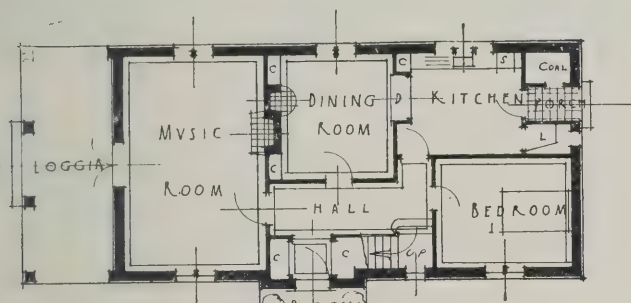
The Banstead Parish Council urge the Epsom Rural Council to take into immediate consideration the urgency of erecting 30 cottages at Banstead, 20 cottages at Tadworth, and 30 cottages at Burgh Heath.



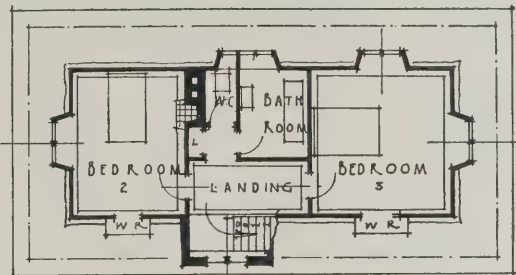
FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION

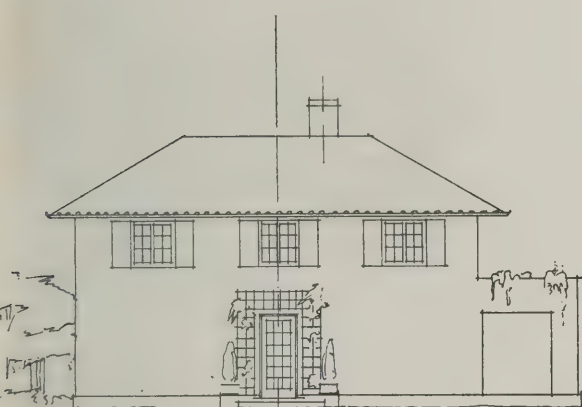


GROUND PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

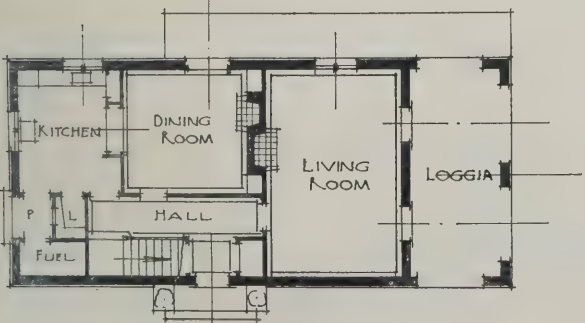
SMALL HOUSE IN NEW ZEALAND. Messrs. MASSEY & MORGAN, Architects.



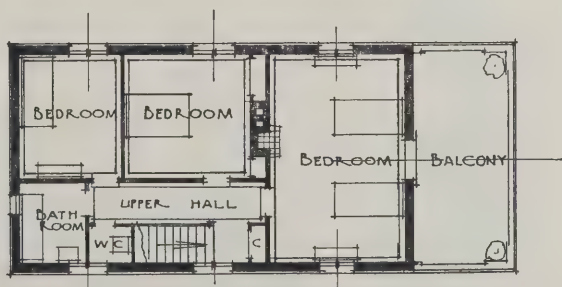
ENTRANCE FRONT



GARDEN FRONT



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SMALL HOUSE IN NEW ZEALAND. Messrs. MASSEY & MORGAN, Architects.



BUNGALOW AT DANBURY, ESSEX, TYPE "D," FOR MRS. MARGARET A. HILLEN.

R. J. HUGH MINTY & J. F. PULFORD, Architects.

Scotland.

The Glasgow Dean of Guild Court passed the following plans for houses:—Two double villas in Herries and Maxwell Roads, a double villa in Merrylee Road, Newlands.

The Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court passed the plans for a house in Grant Avenue, Colinton, four bungalows at Blackhall, a villa and garage at Lasswade Road, Liberton, 16 self-contained houses at Glebe Road, Corstorphine.

The plans for 124 houses to be erected at Robroyston Colliery, Robroyston, Millerston, have been passed by the Lower Ward District Committee of the Lanarkshire County Council. The builders are Messrs. John Watson, Ltd., 19 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

Midlands.

The Ilkeston Town Council has passed the plans for two houses in Cantelupe Road and two houses in Nottingham Road and two pairs of houses in Hallam Fields Road.

Twenty houses are to be erected at March. The Urban District Council has approved the plans.

In a small residential urban area on the borders of Staffordshire and Cheshire named Alsager a scheme for the erection of at least 114 houses has been brought forward and applications have been made to the Urban Council for the housing subsidy.

A bungalow is to be built in Newcastle Avenue, Worksop. Two further bungalows are to be erected on Shireoaks Common, two houses in Anston Avenue and two houses in Carlton Avenue. The necessary plans have been all approved by the Urban District Council.

A house is to be built in Oval Road, Rushden, five in Robinson

Road, three on the St. Crispin estate, two bungalows off the Wymington Road, a house on the Hayway, a house in Newton Road. All the plans for the above houses have been approved by the Urban District Council.

Wales.

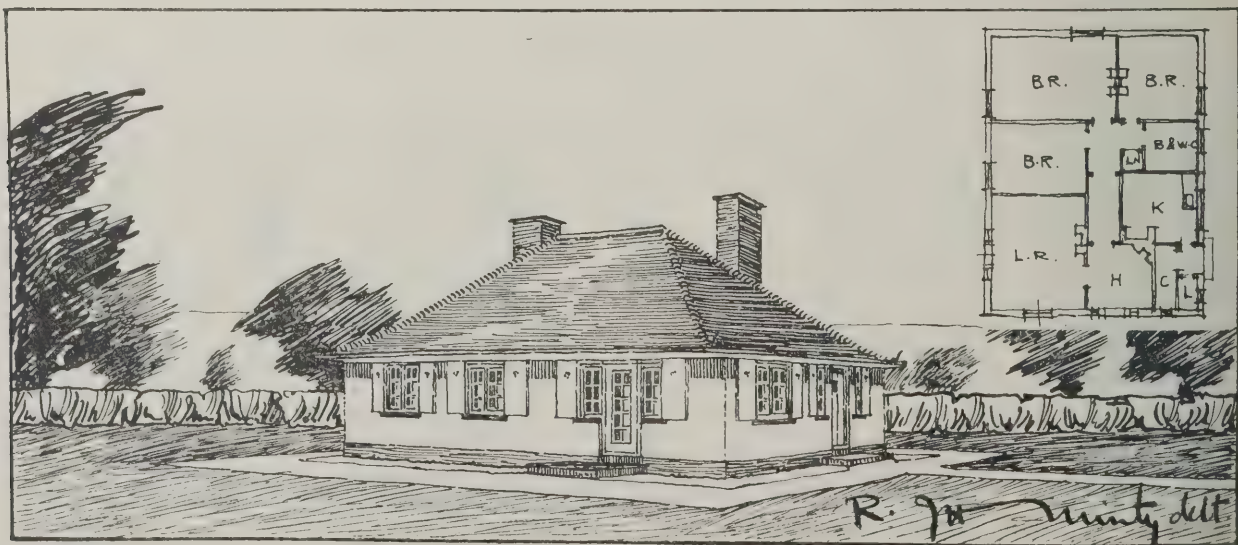
The Bedwas Navigation Colliery Co. has offered to purchase land at Trethomas for the purpose of building thereon 120 houses. The Bedwas and Machen Urban District Council have applied to the Ministry of Health for permission to accept the offer.

Sixty houses are to be erected by Messrs. Gilbertson at Alltwen and Pontardawe in connection with housing of workmen employed at the firm's new tinplate works.

North of England.

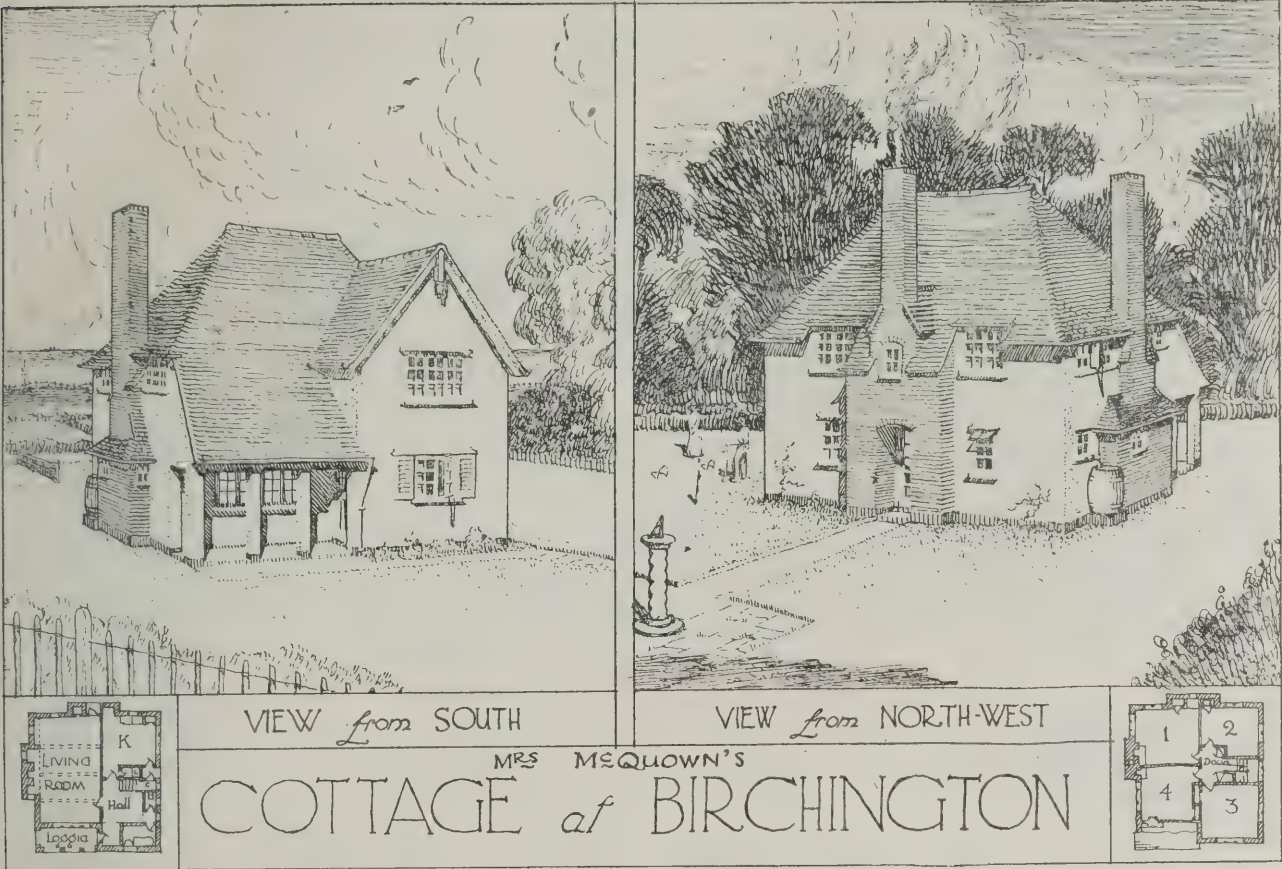
Ten houses are to be erected in Omer Drive, Burnage. The necessary plans have been passed by the Manchester Corporation Buildings Committee. The same authority has passed the plans for 20 houses in Beaumont Road and Belgrave Road, and for six houses in Wilbraham and Morville Roads, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. The plans for 34 houses and two shops at Beaver Road, Adria Road, Veronica Road, and Gaddum Road, Didsbury, were also approved; as also were the plans for 16 houses in Clevendon Street and Whiteway Street, Moston; as also were the plans for four houses in Waltham Road and Springbridge Road, and four houses in Manley Road and six houses in Austell Road, Withington.

The plans for five bungalows and 11 houses were approved by the Urban District Council of Carlton.



BUNGALOW AT DANBURY, ESSEX, TYPE "E," FOR MRS. MARGARET A. HILLEN.

R. J. HUGH MINTY & J. F. PULFORD, Architects.



Cottage at Birchington.

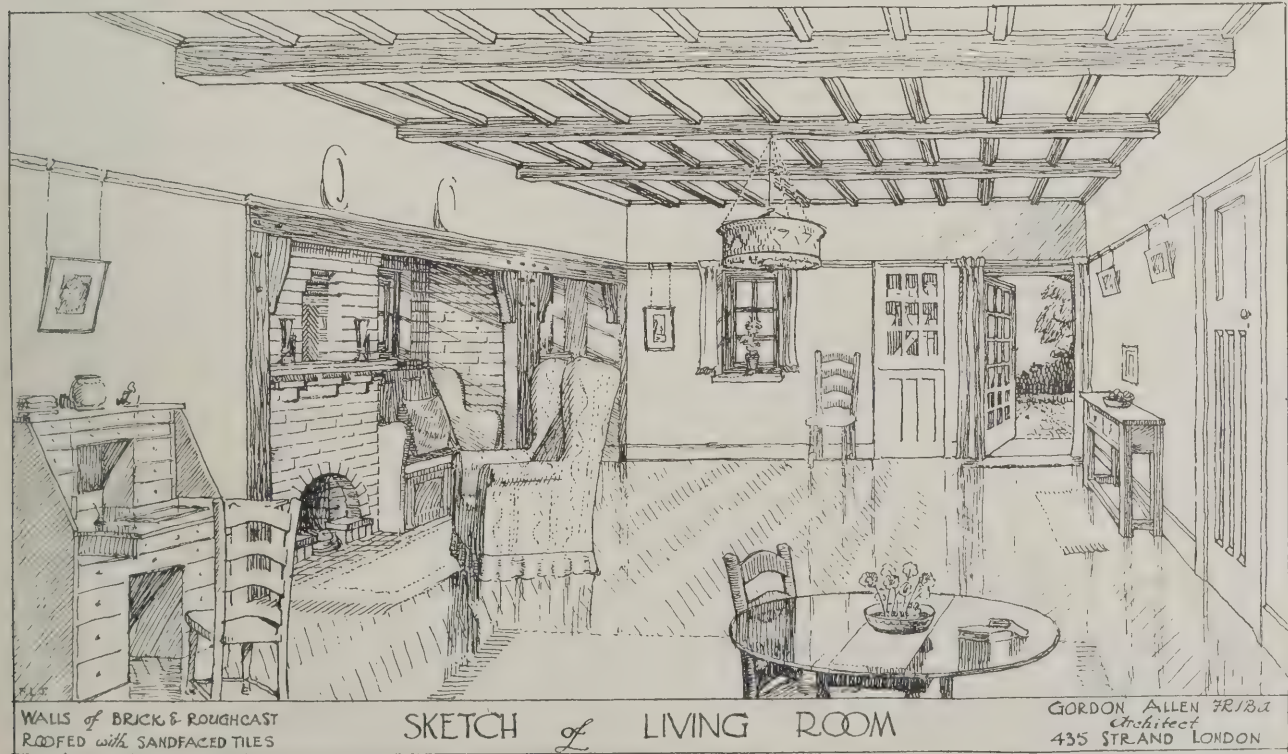
This seaside cottage, now in course of erection, was designed to meet special requirements and conditions, including a corner site. As indicated by the plans, there are four bedrooms upstairs, in addition to linen and other cupboards, one of which contains a sink fitted with hot and cold water. The ground-floor accommodation consists of a kitchen, hall, bathroom, etc., and a large living-room. A feature has been made of this room, which has (as shown in the sketch) a red-brick inglenook, an open-teimbred ceiling, and a wood block floor.

All external walls have been built with a cavity, as the position is an exposed one, and sand-faced tiles were used on the roof.

The contractor is Mr. C. A. Edmonds, of Birchington, and the fittings were supplied by the K.C.B. Foundry Co., Ltd. Mr. Gordon Allen, F.R.I.B.A., was the architect.

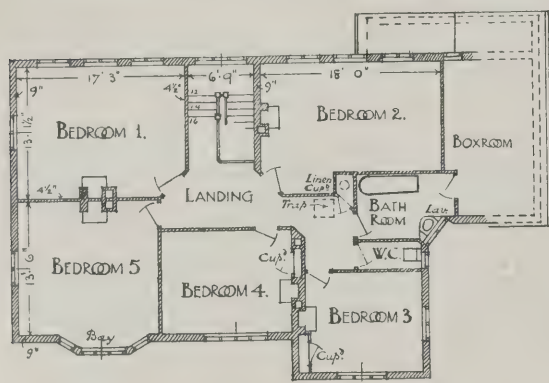
The Board of Education have approved of the scheme which is to provide a new elementary school for the southern and central portions of Ealing and have sanctioned the erection of one block of the building which will provide accommodation for 420 scholars and cost £14,950 to build.

An application is to be made to the Ministry of Health by the Hendon Urban District Council for permission to purchase a site at Golders Green for the purpose of erecting a public library

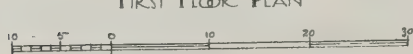




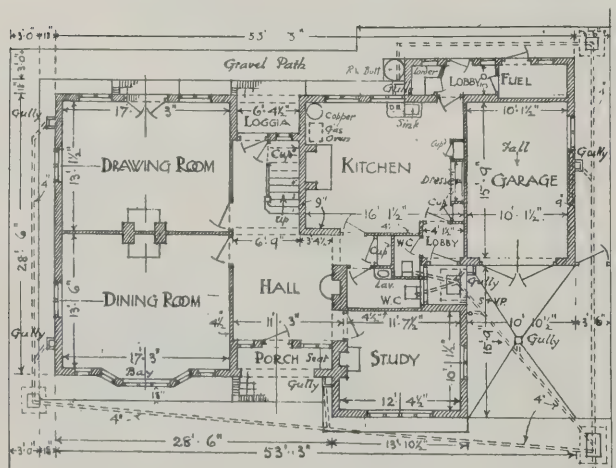
HOUSE IN CLARENCE ROAD, CLAPHAM PARK, S.W. GORDON ALLEN, Architect.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GORDON ALLEN RIBA
Architect
435 STRAND W.C.2



GROUND PLAN

House in Clarence Road, Clapham Park, S.W.

This house is built of roughcasted brick, parts of the upper storey being tile-hung. The chimneys are of red brick, and the roof of sand-faced tiles with bonnet hips. Oak is used for the barge board and front gates.

Internally there are three reception rooms with oak block

floors, a lounge hall similarly floored and panelled in oak, five bedrooms, a garage and usual offices. The bathroom and w.c. have floors of terrazzo marble.

Messrs. Arding & Hobbs, Ltd., were the general contractors. Mantel registers, door furniture and other fittings were supplied by the City Iron Co.; the dated R.W. heads and bronze door knocker are by Messrs. Cashmore, Bowman & Co., Ltd., of Balham. Mr. Gordon Allen, F.R.I.B.A., 435 Strand, W.C.2, was the architect.

No Awards at Wembley Exhibition.

COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS AND DECORATIVE CERTIFICATE FOR ALL.

We readily admit that the question of making awards by a competitive system at the Empire Exhibition might easily create a number of difficulties. But surely the mode of presenting a commemorative medal, accompanied by a decorative certificate, to each exhibitor who has rented space is rather futile. And we are forced to the conclusion that perhaps the exhibitors would be better pleased if the money that is bound to be spent on these things might be better employed. To obtain an award on the basis of merit is a prize worth treasuring, but to receive a medal and decorative certificate because you rented space cannot possibly have any commercial or sentimental value.

In the commercial world, the mention of a number of awards at various exhibitions still seems to attract some people, and some are inclined to attach a guarantee of approved merit to these awards. Possibly they may have been in many cases awarded in competition with others. But when it is known that the awards given at the British Empire Exhibition of 1924 were dependent on the mere fact that the holders rented space, surely the whole value of all such awards and medals will receive a crushing blow.

Calendars.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Your comment on the issue of calendars by builders, merchants, and others, is to the point, and has long been wanted. It is a pity that those who issue them do not realise that there are only two chances for a calendar to be kept. Either they must be attractive or, from the point of view of clearness or information, useful. Every years scores go straight into the waste-paper basket for complying with neither condition. Another point is that everyone by the first or second of January has suited himself either with a specially purchased or a suitable trade issued calendar, and has no use for the belated copies that some firms send out about the middle or end of January.—Yours faithfully,

G. REAVELL.



DESIGN FOR A BUNGALOW. G. W. DAVIS, Architect.

Correspondence

Choice of a Profession.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—What am I to do with the constant stream of appeals from young men who have received professional training and are now seeking positions in which to earn a modest living? Some of the men that call at my office bring specimens of their work, which have undoubted merit; others, and they certainly are the majority, ought never to have been allowed to waste their time and their money on trying to acquire a knowledge of architecture.

We read in official reports issued from time to time by our architectural training centres that the kindly hint is given to those who show no promise. But the standard must be very low and the masters must be very hopeful individuals; or are other interests behind these very sad cases?

How would any parent like to see his son or daughter arrive at an age when knowledge acquired should be turned to profitable account only to find that his children have been kept at the seat of learning for no other purpose than to swell the attendance lists.

Parents are apt to think the moderate accomplishments of their young children as showing decided promise in certain directions, and schools are selected where these indications are best encouraged. Far better would it be to wait a little while and permit Nature to manifest the talent in an unmistakable way which will leave no room for doubt. To-day specialists have to be far and away above the ordinary standard. To show an ability to draw a few original ideas is not sufficient to indicate that the child is either going to take kindly to art or architecture.

No profession can give a fair return to men or women of medium talent.

If you are at a loss and do not know in what direction to place your child be well advised and give him or her the best chance of earning a living.

Millions have a fine appreciation of the arts and take all the satisfaction they need from this appreciation. Only the very, very few will admit in after life that the sacrifices demanded in following such a career were worth while.

Above everything else, do not place your child into the architectural profession. This profession is full of the most bitter disappointments and needs absolutely unique and very rare talents. Your child may possess a great talent for drawing and yet only end in being a slave. If your child has great ability in drawing remember that the successful architect is not of the shy, retiring artistic nature. Such natures could never hope to be a success in architecture. The successful architect is a very complex individual. He is a social success. He has charming and delightful manners: he is tactful to a fault. He is tolerant and never a bore. He must possess a contented mind and never worry. Added to these qualifications he must be businesslike and yet possess the artistic temperament. It will be easily seen from this description that the mere possession of great gifts of an artistic nature are wholly inadequate for the purpose of making a success of architecture.

A painter may sit in his studio and be indifferent to the world's opinion. An architect can never successfully maintain such an attitude.

Parents who wish their children to become architects should be prepared to make them financial allowances from the very start. Otherwise they will wear out their hearts and the door-steps of others in their search for a modest living.

In this letter I have tried to warn men and women from lightly entering the architectural profession, but I have not answered my own question as to what I am to do with the unfortunates that call at my office.—Yours faithfully,

CITY ARCHITECT.

Housing Subsidy.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—I read your housing news every week, and I am still as mystified as ever as to where the Government benefit is derived in respect to the Housing subsidy.

I read that the Local Authorities frequently augment the Government grant of £6 per year for 20 years by an additional £25, which brings the capitalised value of the subsidy to £100.

I then read, for example, that the Ministry of Health has granted the Local Authorities permission to borrow £3,000 wherewith to pay a subsidy on 30 houses at the rate of £100 each. Now if the Local Authorities have to borrow this £3,000, where does the Government generosity enter into the transaction? Perhaps you would kindly clear up this point for me.

I cannot help feeling that the houses which are being built under the 1923 Housing Act are not the houses which the country needs most. The rental value per year of the houses that are now going up very closely approaches £1 per week, without making any allowances for repairs.

Before the war the middle class expected and obtained very good accommodation for £52 a year. To-day it is the working class who need housing accommodation, and need it at a rental of about 10s. a week.

It is admitted by all that the Housing is a grave national difficulty, and I would humbly suggest that money might be available from which the Local Authorities could borrow loans free of all interest charges. This would enable houses to be let to the working classes at a rental which they could easily pay.

It is impossible to expect labour to accept lower wages when the rents are double what they should be, and all industry at present suffers from the high standard of wages.

Perhaps some of your readers will express their views on the subject.—Yours faithfully,

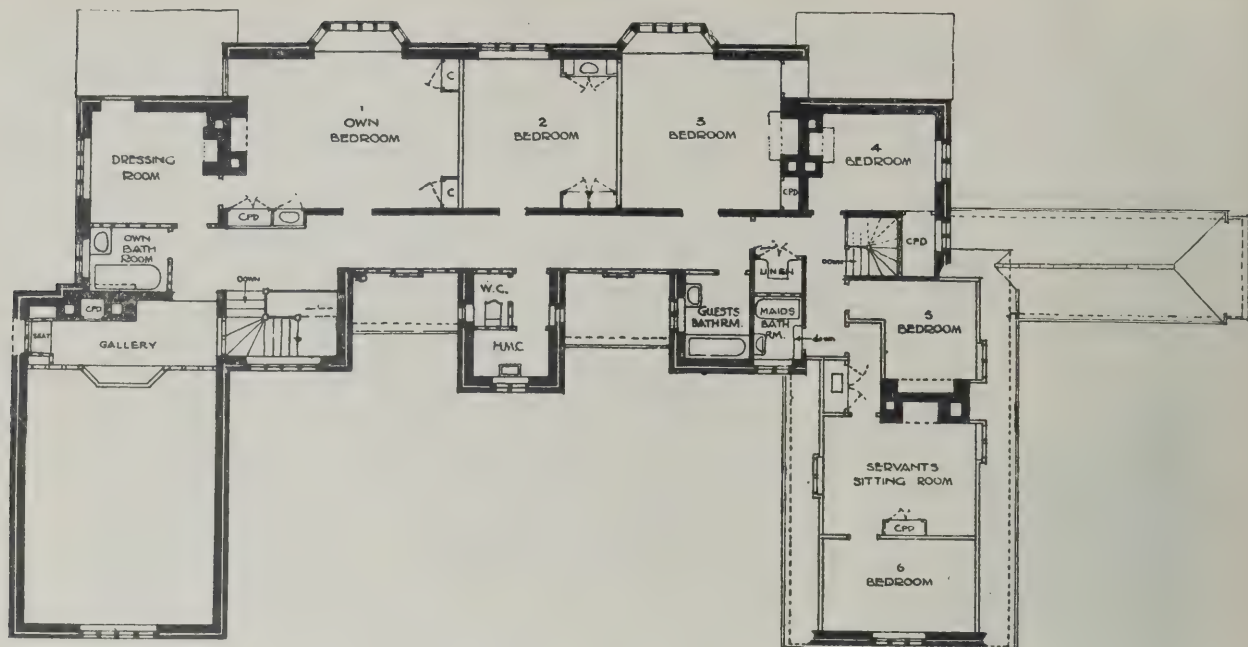
January 14, 1924.

PER CENT.

The Housing Question in 1924.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—May I venture to quote Sir Wm. Joynson-Hicks's remarks in defence of the Conservative Government in relation to the Housing question. I quote his reply without reference to the "comedian" questions interposed. The reply was, quoting from "The Times," as follows: "Defending the Government's housing policy, the right hon. gentleman said that



The FIRST FLOOR Plan

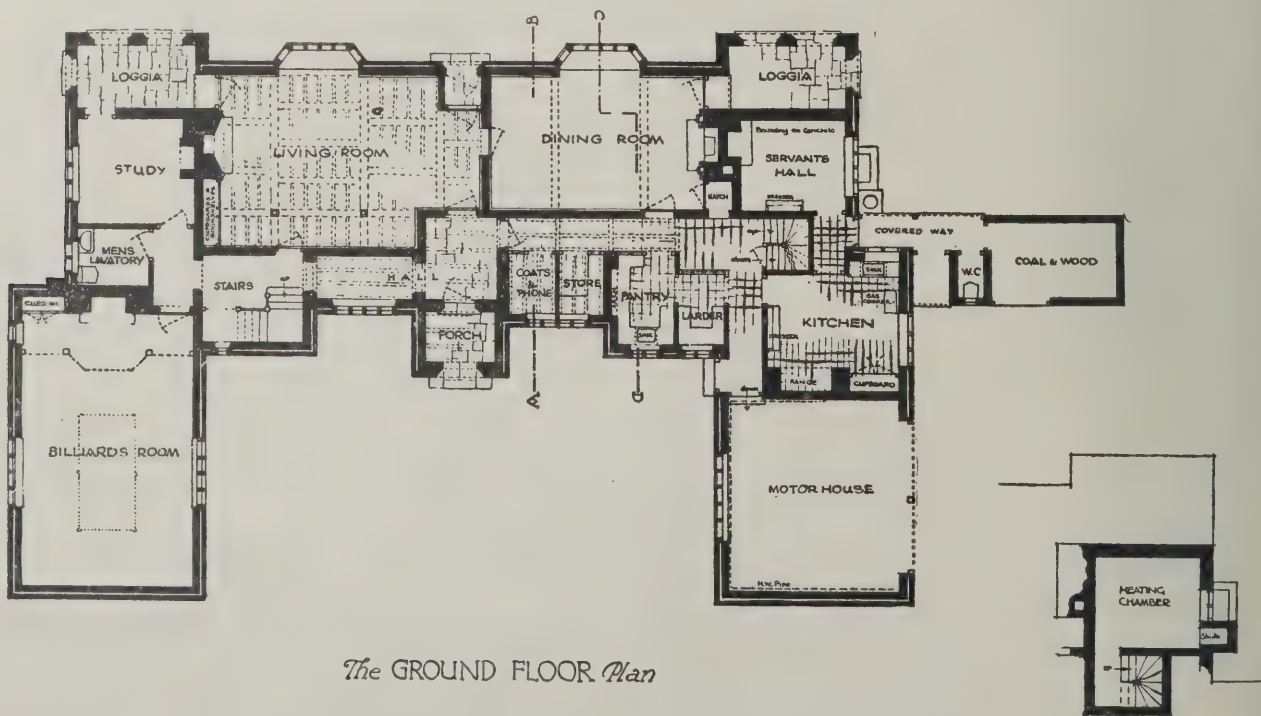
HOUSE AT LIMPSFIELD. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

the Housing Act, which was passed only five months ago, had already resulted in plans for 85,036 houses being approved. Of that number, 31,000 were being built by local authorities and 53,600 by private enterprise. (Cheers.) They had been able to do what the Labour Party said was impossible, to get private enterprise going again. The fact of plans being prepared and approved meant that the houses would be built. Contracts had been made under the 1923 Act for the building of 44,000 houses; 17,600 houses were already in course of erection; and 3,500 had been completed. That was in five months. There would be, in the first year after the passing of the 1923 Act, 100,000 built under the provisions of that Act. (Cheers.) That number would be greater than any number built during the last 20 years, except in one particular year, when 105,000 houses were built. The average number of houses built annually before the war was 63,000. Every week he was approving plans for the erection of 3,500 more houses, and he could get still more houses built if there were more skilled labour available in the building trade. (Ministerial cheers and Labour interruptions.) The speaker went on to say he could establish what he had said by figures. In 1901 there were 109,000 bricklayers, to-day only 53,000; there

were 27,000 plasterers, to-day only 13,000; there were 8,400 slaters, to-day only 2,880. In fact, there was no unemployment in the skilled sections of the building trade to-day. (Ministerialist cheers and Labour cries of 'That's not true.') If there were more labour available he could sanction every week the building, not of 3,500 houses, but 5,000 houses. (Ministerialist cheers.)

With the faults of omission or commission of the late Conservative Government, the pages of such a journal as *THE ARCHITECT* cannot be interested, but all engaged in building operations will, I think, agree with me that the late Government did get a move on, and by a carefully prepared system of non-interference, building enterprise was on an upward grade. What is wanted at this present time is that Labour and the Trusts in the building industries should both give up their present system, and should settle down to an honest attempt to cope with the present shortage.

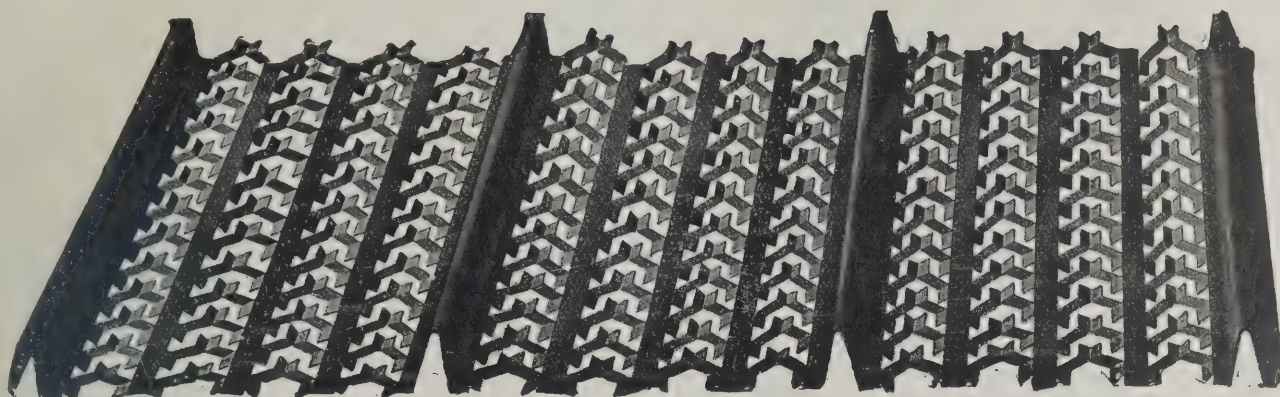
Much has been done, much more can and will be if manufacturers and workmen will combine to meet the need. Personally, I believe that 1924 will see a great revival in the industry known as the Building Trade.—I am, yours, etc.,
"CORNER STONE."



The GROUND FLOOR Plan

HOUSE AT LIMPSFIELD. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

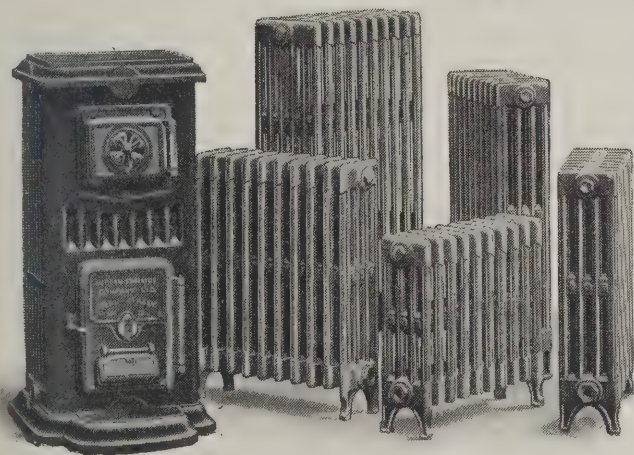
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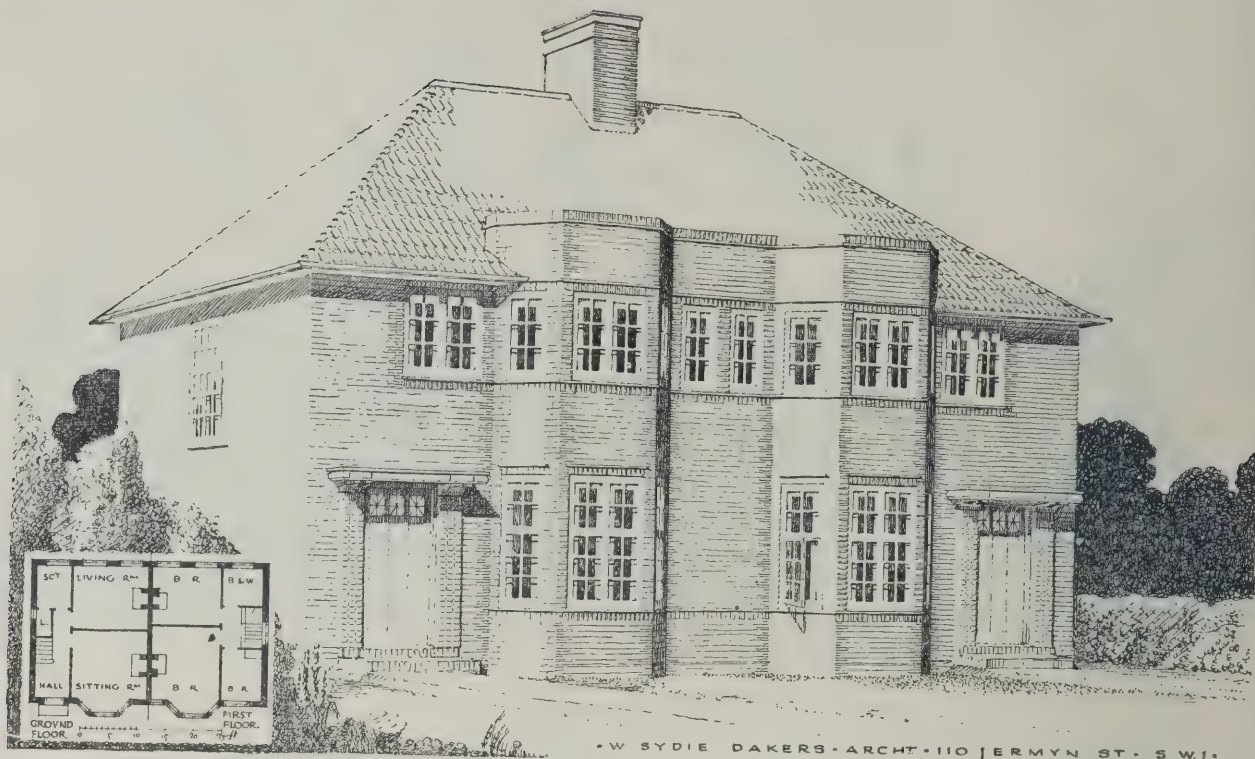
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HOUSES AT WEMBLEY HILL GARDEN ESTATE, TYPE "B." W. SYDIE DAKERS, Architect.

These houses are built externally with 11 in. hollow walls, the 9 in. party walls being in concrete blocks cast on the site. The quoins and squints to the windows are in Luton greys, and to reduce cost the remainder of the facings are in ordinary building bricks selected from works supplying bricks which in the mass yield an effect not usually associated with bricks not described as "facing," while some interest is imparted to

the surfaces by well defined joints produced by a V jointer. The roofs are covered with Major's Bridgewater tiles. Internally, woodwork is reduced to a minimum and stained. The living room is fitted with an "Interoven" stove and the scullery with an independent boiler and gas cooker. The contractors are Messrs. Callow and Wright, of Willesden Green.

Competition News.

The "Brooke Robinson Memorial" Buildings and War Memorial.

The assessor of this competition was W. Curtis Green, A.R.A., architect, and he has awarded the following numbers the three prizes in their respective order: Nos. 54, 3, 6. No. 54 was submitted by Messrs. Alexander Harvey and H. Graham Wicks, 5, Bennett's Hill, Birmingham. The assessor's report reads as follows in respect to this design, which he has placed first:—

Design No. 54 is, in my opinion, the best, and I recommend (subject only to Conditions Nos 3 and 28) that the author be appointed architect for the work. The plan is simple; the tower is rightly placed upon the site; the new work fits into its place with the old; the lighting and ventilation are good, and the whole can, I believe, be built within the sum of £40,000, the maximum figure at your disposal. Taking these points in order, the public hall has good entrances. An ample crush hall is provided; there are good approaches to the gallery and refreshment room. The office for advance booking, etc., is shown of suitable size. Public and private access to the sessions court and coroner's court and the rooms in connection with these are well and conveniently arranged, while the museum and curator's office are both independent of, and united to, the other departments. The courts and private rooms are of pleasant shape and proportion. The lighting, heating and ventilation are straightforward and involve no difficulties. A caretaker's house is also provided, convenient in its arrangements and position; very few designs include this house, and it may be that the fund will be insufficient to provide it. The elevations are not so attractive in some ways as are those shown in the design I have placed second, but they marry in better with the old buildings, and if they are built of proper materials and are carefully detailed, should make a notable addition to your public offices. I should like to have an opportunity of discussing the details of these elevations with the author before he proceeds with his working drawings.

With regard to the question of cost, the author has produced perhaps the most economical plans of any. At the same time he has made mistakes in his cubing, and I am of opinion that you must not rely upon getting a tender below the maximum figure of £40,000.

The author will no doubt make various improvements to his design in course of working it out, and I recommend the following alterations:—

(1) Additional emergency exit to free library yard; (2) doors from entrance hall to cloak room; (3) that 3 feet to 4 feet by taken off the lavatories behind platform to allow of assemble space for those using platform; (4) a small service lift to kitchen from yard archway.

Design No. 3, by Messrs. Stockdale Harrison & Sons and Geo. Nott, 7 St. Martin's East, Leicester, which I have placed second, has many attractive features. The elevations are particularly pleasing and show considerable knowledge and refinement in detail.

Unfortunately, the new buildings do not unite well with the old. The plan is not so economical, nor the lighting so good, as is No. 54. The access and exits to the hall are not so good, nor are the arrangements of the courts and adjoining rooms so convenient. The memorial tower and the memorial hall, set apart from general use, are attractive, and the whole is a distinguished design.

The third place has been more difficult to fill; there are many designs of merit and ability. I have awarded this premium to No. 6, by Messrs. H. V. Ashley and Winton Newman, 14 Gray's Inn Square, W.C., whose plan and sections are very able. Externally the new work does not compose well with the old. It is not quite so compact a scheme as it might be. It would have been better had the memorial tower and side entrances taken the place of the waiting hall.

Many of the other designs call for comment.

No. 21 has given considerable prominence to the memorial tower, which is well designed; the elevations and sections are pleasant, but the plan lacks spaciousness, and many of the offices rely too much upon skylights for air and ventilation.

Design No. 34 is a most attractive conception, beautiful in scale and mass; it again has defects of plan; too much reliance is placed on borrowed or top lights. The public hall, which is top lit only, would be better with clerestory windows. Insufficient cloak room accommodation, and lack of assembly space behind the stage, are some of the practical defects that mar an otherwise fine design.

Design No. 11 calls for comment; in many ways an admirable solution of the problem, the drawing gives a curious effect of unreality to the whole; it lacks a sense of scale between the major to the minor parts.



BRITANNIC HOUSE, E.C.2 (Moorgate Front).
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Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

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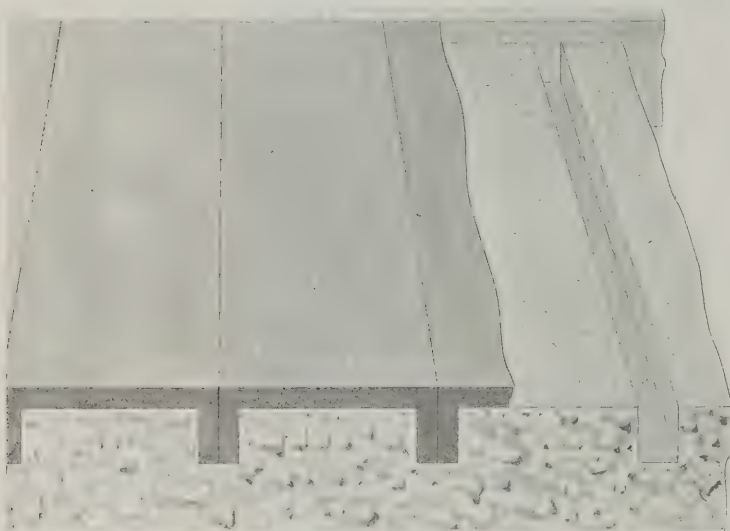
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Roadmaking Industry.

One of the most practical systems of rubber road covering would appear to be just coming forward in the system invented by Mr. C. W. Read. It has unique advantages, and the representatives of public bodies would do well to investigate the claims that are set out by the producers.

It so differs in construction from the methods that have hitherto prevailed amongst the firms engaged in this business that we feel sure our readers will be interested in a brief explanation. Many claims have been made from time to time by various manufacturers, and it appears to us that in investigating such claims we should ask how these claims affect the public, who eventually have to pay for and use the roads. In the first place it is stated that the cost is so little removed from the cost of the best accepted forms of road construction or surfacing that that point in itself would lead us to inquire what is the cost, and we should like the manufacturers to answer this very directly to us, so that we may put that particular point to users. They state that the maintenance, under this particular system, is a very small cost, also that its life greatly exceeds any other material that could be used in road construction. It is easy to lay and is guaranteed to be silent and deadening to the noise of traffic. These are the features we all want to attain on our roads, and if half the claims are



substantiated by the producers, there is not the slightest doubt that most of the road constructors will be investigating the claims put forward by this form of street paving.

The features of this new road surfacing, particularly claimed, are as follows: extraordinary toughness—not hardness, but toughness—great resiliency, and an appearance which would indicate long life under all traffic conditions.

The actual construction of the material is of a channel shape or section, made in such lengths as will cover in one piece a considerable section of the road. There are two flanges as an integral part, and these fit into recesses made in the actual concrete or foundation of the road.

This might be considered a very good point again, because undoubtedly a concrete foundation is the only one which could possibly be satisfactory with the traffic of to-day. Where wood blocks or sets or rubber blocks of usual construction are being used, unless the road is excavated to a greater depth, the strength of the foundation is reduced by the depth of the block placed on the top, but in Read's system, although the same depth is excavated as heretofore, the actual foundation would be thicker, because the depth from the crown of the block to the under surface is added as an integral part to the foundation. The Read block, as we will term it, being of very substantial dimensions, shows that the producer had foreseen the advantage of bringing a different form of structure to use. The customary small square block is really an adaptation of what already exists in the form of the wood block or a granite set, and it is somewhat obvious that rubber would have to be constructed according to its nature and ability to undertake the work given to it. We have the wood block, cut on cross grain, so that it can withstand shocks in a downward direction, and to give it a life of use. A granite set is cut to the shape of a brick as that is a very adaptable manner in which to use it, but to imitate with rubber an accepted form, because it is a form, is like baking a pudding and calling it a cake, and it is healthy to see that someone is at least well acquainted with his material

and the use to which it is put. We understand that a piece of test road will be laid in the district of Southend-on-Sea, when those interested could form their opinions, and quickly get to work in constructing a road which claims the following ideals:—

(1) Evenness of surface; (2) Resiliency, and able to withstand shocks; (3) Non-slipping; (4) Not costly to install or maintain; (5) Permanent, so as to obviate frequent repairs and consequent obstruction to traffic, and, one of the principal things, (6) Guaranteed to be silent.

The product is at present being handled by Messrs. F. and E. Stanton, Ltd., 2a Harders Road, Peckham, London, S.E.15, but it appears with them there is no dog-in-the-manger policy, for it is proposed to allow reputable rubber manufacturers and also capable road constructors to manufacture and lay the surfacing, and although the system is patented, licences will be granted so that the advantages may be fully exploited.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JANUARY 24, 1874.

A rain-water pipe, even in its rosiest aspect, is a black spot in the architectural firmament. At the beginning of the year one often threatens to sacrifice innermost convictions to the prejudices of a cast-iron age, and architects, who in early youth have solved in their meridian of life the gratuitous problem of making six unnecessary dormer windows necessitate seven rain-water pipes—the latter being called by courtesy architectural features. I believe, and do not believe, in this mode of draining a roof. Custom and the London Building Act require the existence of pipes. The Indian Government forbids any whatsoever. In many French buildings these pipes are fixed in recesses in the inside of the external walls, as in the Pavillon de Flore at the Tuileries. But if, as in a town, there can be no doubt of the necessity for a pipe, it ought to be placed on the outside of a building and to be detached from the wall, while a gargoyle should be fixed to the roof-gutter in case the rain-water pipe becomes clogged with dirt. In the country, and in detached houses far from the road, bold projecting gargoyles, supported on two or even more corbels, answer the purpose better than pipes if proper means are taken to receive the falling water. Where there is no supervision of pipes, as in a ruin, experience shows that they are frequently the cause of precipitated decay to the walls. At the Castle of St. Germain, M. MILLET reported that the parts of the building drained by gargoyles were in a better state of preservation than those provided with rain-water pipes. I have been led to make these reflections from the following anecdote, which I recount for the benefit of those who may inadvertently fall into a similar predicament. There is a building at Llandaff, near Cardiff, known as the Probate Registry Office, which has been built now for a number of years. As a piece of architecture there is nothing in the neighbourhood more thoroughly true in principle, more artistic, or better executed; and it is the work of Mr. JOHN PRICHARD. Unfortunately, he had caused the pipes necessary to drain the roof to be placed inside the building, and this came to the ears of an official magnate, who, for aught I know to the contrary, was a Government inspector. About a year and a half ago, without the architect having been consulted or even warned, five circular pipes painted a dead white were fixed promiscuously on the two sides of the building facing the high road. Although no one knows clearly who is responsible, not for the barbarism of introducing the pipes, but for the Vandalic manner in which they are introduced, every one feels that a really good building has been wantonly defaced. It is of small consequence now who it was, Government inspector or local official, but it is certain that, by not allowing Mr. PRICHARD a voice in so important a matter, he acted towards him as one well-bred man would hesitate to act towards another—which is a charitable way of looking at the ill-mannered exercise of a little brief authority.

Trade Notes.

Messrs. George Wright (Rotherham), Ltd., of Burton Weir Works, Rotherham, and 19 Newman Street, London, W., send us their new illustrated catalogue relating to stainless steel which they claim is the first publication of the kind issued relating to stainless goods other than cutlery. This booklet gives particulars of their stainless steel fireplaces, kerbs, basket grates, fire-irons, etc.

The Birmingham Corporation propose to spend £3,500 in connection with the open-access system at the Central Lending Library.



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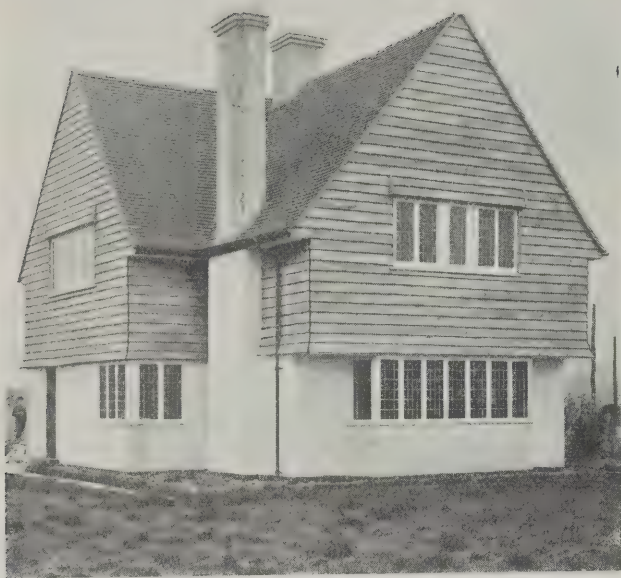
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HOUSE AT GERRARD'S CROSS.
WILLS & KAULA, Architects.

Bungalow at Sullington, Sussex.

L. J. REDGRAVE CRIPPS, Architect.

The bungalow is planned so that all the principal rooms get the maximum amount of sunshine and also command the best views to the South. Only the scullery, larder, bath-room and W.C.'s are placed on the North side. A study of the plan will show that the kitchen and bedrooms are placed at either end of the bungalow and are connected by means of a covered way. The rooms are well lighted and of a good size. In order to reduce expense, only one chimney stack is provided, which serves the kitchen and main living room. The bedrooms are heated by means of radiators worked off from the "Ideal Cookanheat" stove in the kitchen. The whole of the sanitary points are grouped together

on one side (the North side) of the bungalow. The whole of the construction is thoroughly sound, being 11 in. brick cavity walls and close boarded and tiled roof. The contract price is £775.

Incorporated Church Building Society.

At a meeting of the Incorporated Church Building Society, held at 7, Dean's Yard, Westminster, on the 17th inst., grants were made towards building new churches at Ashby, St. Paul, Lincs, £300; and Crosby, St. George, Lincs, £300; and towards enlarging, reseating or repairing the churches at Ascot. All Saints, Berks, £40; Brooke, St. Peter, Oakham, £50; Chartham, St. Mary, Kent, £25; Clacton-on-Sea, St. James, £40; and Plymouth, St. Mary, £45. Grants were also made from the Mission Buildings Fund towards Mission Churches at Garth, Llangammarch Wells, Brecons, £60; Rhostryfan, Llanwnda, Carns, £40; and Swansea, St. Nicholas, £100. The following grants were also paid for works completed at Immingham, St. Andrew, Lincs, £50; Orlestone, St. Mary, Kent, £30; Kingsdown, St. Catherine, Kent, £30; Pensnett, St. Mark, Wores, £100; Shrewsbury, St. Mary, £150; Dewesall, St. Michael and All Angels, Hereford, £20; Long Eaton, St. John, Notts, £200; Laver Breton, Colchester, £50; Howdon Panns, St. Paul, Northumberland, £50; Lavender Hill, The Ascension, £70; Norwich, St. Saviour, £30; Stepney, St. Matthew, £40; Rede, All Saints, Bury St. Edmunds, £25; and Gray's Inn Road, St. Jude, £35.

In addition to these, the sum of £450 was paid towards the repair of 29 churches from Trust Funds held by the Society.

Additional accommodation for nurses is to be provided by the Surrey County Council at Brookwood and Netherne Mental Hospitals. The same council have also approved of alterations and additions to Cheam Hospital.

The inaugural meeting of the Institution of Public Lighting Engineers and Superintendents will take place in the Board Room of the Holborn Borough Council on February 15, 1924, at 2 p.m., by the courtesy of the Holborn Borough Council.

It is proposed to erect at Hastings a new Music Pavilion at an estimated cost of £100,000.

Extensions involving the expenditure of £16,000 are to be taken in hand shortly at St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, London.

About seven acres of land at Long Ashton are to be acquired by the County Council for the erection of a new county secondary school for North Somerset.





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Reinforcing a Tar-Macadam Road.

Tar-macadam, when laid over good foundations, gives an excellent wearing surface. The qualification, however, is important—the tar-macadam roadway does not provide both for foundations and surface. Even when laid on comparatively good subsoil, there is always a tendency towards sliding and creeping on the part of relative sections of the tar-macadam. Were it possible to overcome this tendency it is obvious that the life of the tar-macadam roadway would be lengthened substantially.

It is with this problem in mind that Messrs. Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., reinforced concrete engineers, are advocating the



reinforcement of tar-macadam roadways. The block shows a trial stretch of tar-macadam road under construction at Redcar. This road is a section of the new trunk road between Middlesbrough and Saltburn, and is laid under the direction of R. H. Hampton, Esq., the Borough Engineer of Redcar. It is particularly interesting as illustrating the actual use of steel mesh for the reinforcement of this type of road. The special mesh employed in this instance is "Maxweld" Fabric 6 in. by 12 in., the steel used in its manufacture conforming to British Standard Specification for Structural Steel. The fixed mesh of the fabric provides a series of pockets or keys into which the tar-macadam becomes efficiently interlocked. Its use, while successfully neutralising the disintegrating tendencies previously noted, serves also to transmit local shock destruction over a large area.

It is claimed that a tar-macadam roadway thus strengthened will show a 50 per cent. longer life than an unreinforced roadway of the same material.

The question of increasing the grant for houses from £100 to £120 will be brought before the next Fife County Council meeting at Cupar.

The Borough Surveyor of Chorley has in his possession all particulars respecting the 150 houses which the Town Council are building.

Mr. R. Fletcher, engineer and surveyor to the Urban Council of Oldbury, will supply full particulars respecting the twenty houses which are being built for this authority.

The Gosforth Urban District Council are to seek permission from the Ministry of Health to borrow £14,000 for the purpose of erecting thirty additional houses under the Coxlodge housing scheme.

Mr. James Gray, A.R.I.B.A., architect, 140 Princes Street, Edinburgh, will be pleased to supply forms of tender and schedules in connection with the construction of four houses in Penicuik for the Town Council.

We have been asked to announce that, the wire netting business of the Barb Engineering Company having been sold at Newton Heath, Manchester, the reinforcement part of the business will be carried on, under the title of Wonpees Reinforcement Co., reinforced concrete engineers, at Saltney, Chester, with telegraphic address "Wonpees, Chester," and telephone number 1098 Chester.

The contract for the entire roofing of the Australian Pavilion, British Empire Exhibition, Wembley, the roof area of which exceeds 17,000 square yards, has been placed with The Ruberoid Co., Limited, roofing manufacturers and contractors, Lincoln House, High Holborn, W.C. The contract includes the sloped and flat roofs and gutters. The Pavilion is being erected to the design of George Oakshott, Esq., F.I.A., Australia House, London.

Electric Passenger Lifts.

Mr. Howard Marryat read a very comprehensive and carefully prepared paper on the above subject before the Institution of Electrical Engineers on January 17 last. The author made a very strong plea for British investigation and design in order to produce a lift more especially suitable to conditions prevailing in this country than is possible by following American practice too closely. The conditions in this country are totally different from those existing in America. Here we are restricted in our buildings to a capacity of 250,000 cubic feet; on the other hand we are free from restrictions of any sort in the design of our lift machinery.

The chief difficulty which faces all lift makers alike is that apparently they are not consulted by the architects in the early stages of the planning of any design in which lifts will play a prominent part in the economic success of the building. The author in his paper gave a fund of data of a most convincing character, which could not possibly leave any doubt in the minds of those present of the vital necessity of an early consultation between the architect and the lift maker. The paper laid great stress on a proper and correct calculation of the movements of passengers that would use the installation. Having discovered the total lift capacity required, Mr. Marryat said, it is next necessary to decide the number of lifts to be employed and their speed. As about 30 seconds represents the limit of patience to be expected of the average city man waiting for a lift, a building cannot be considered to be adequately served when the occupants or visitors are asked to wait longer. To calculate the number of lifts required to handle a given traffic and give a half-minute service, the overall speed of the lifts—allowing for all stoppages—must be known. The number of stoppages a lift may be required to make in the course of a return journey from the ground floor and back again varies considerably, but in the class of building which we have been considering, it is found to average about one stop for every 42 ft. of running. Allowing 12 seconds per stop for loss in acceleration, deceleration, opening and closing of gate and for the time taken by the passengers in entering and leaving the car, together with a further allowance to cover general loss of time, we find that the overall time in seconds required for the circular trip will be:

$$\frac{60 \times 2T}{R} + \frac{2T \times 12}{42}$$

where R = running speed of lift in ft. per min.,

T = total travel of lift in feet in one direction.

In the case of a lift with 100 ft. travel and a running speed of 200 ft. per min., the overall time for the circular journey will be 117 seconds. In such a city office building two lifts of given capacity might not provide the required service, whereas three would more than do so, but by slightly increasing the speed the two lifts would suffice.

It will be observed that a definite allowance of 12 seconds for stoppage and lost time should be made in an all-round average service. This will only be found sufficient provided the car is not too large. If the capacity is more than 10 persons—including attendant—the time allowance and the total lift capacity must be increased accordingly.

It has been maintained that lifts of a speed of over 250 ft. per min. cannot be justified in this country because of the lesser height of our buildings as compared with those in America, and that the period of acceleration and deceleration occupies practically the whole time of the short average journey, so that there is no opportunity for the lift to run at its full designed speed. The objection is a sound one and is supported by the practice of making the acceleration and deceleration periods long, in the belief that it is necessary to do so if the internal economy of passengers is not to be upset. The cost of maintenance of an electric passenger lift in business premises varies from about £20 to £100 per annum, and is largely affected by the frequency of re-ropeing. The cost of re-ropeing is largely made up of labour, and is often augmented by the necessity for overtime work, but, apart from the actual cost of the ropes and work, a further loss must be taken into consideration in respect of the discontinuance of lift service whilst the work is in progress.

The increased cost of maintenance due to a bad roping scheme may easily be sufficient to justify several hundreds of pounds capital expenditure in the first place, and may be avoided altogether if proper provision is made in the original plans.

The Town Council of Crewe propose to erect a Maternity Home and Hostel, which will probably cost about £8,000.

The Hackney Board of Guardians have accepted the tender submitted by Messrs. F. & G. Minter for the proposed additions to the infirmary. The amount of this firm's tender is given at £20,794.

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A New Housing Policy.

We sometimes wonder whether our national affairs are well directed from Downing Street, but a contemporary evidently imagines that inspiration can be given from Carmelite Street. Our friends are never at a loss for advice and their recent failure to secure just the Government they could approve of has no whit discouraged them. Their offer is now to provide a Housing Policy which will succeed where others have failed, and which incidently is a clever attempt to secure the sympathies and support of the average man.

For the average man wants to see houses built and does not want to pay heavily in the form of taxation for them.

So our contemporary, the bulk of whose readers probably do not own land, proposes to take it out of the landowner in the form of rates. For those who hold eligible land are to be rated at half its value as building land if they do not sell it or build on it, the proceeds to go towards the provision of houses. It is also proposed to penalise the owners of unoccupied houses by rating them at half the rating of occupied houses.

But our friends have not considered two things—the first, the great difficulty of saying what is “eligible” land, and the second, the broad fact that there is little difficulty all over the country of obtaining sites for housing at a reasonable rate. Probably if all that was required were sites local authorities throughout the country would be willing to buy and convey them to all those who would build there, and would regard this as a cheap and easy way of getting over their difficulties. A further point is that it is essential not only for the rich but for the poor that a man’s right to property he has acquired should be recognised and respected. The purchaser or owner of land has every right to sell it for the best price he can get at the time which suits him best, and the more fully his rights are recognised the greater will be the inclination to deal in land and buildings.

We can put eight to twelve houses on an acre of land, and it will be found that while the buildings represent some £4,000 or £5,000 in value the cost of the land where housing operations are proposed may range from something like £30 an acre up to £200 or thereabouts, for clearly no one would propose to build cottages on land which would fetch a high price for larger residential purposes. The cost of the land is therefore a very small fraction of that of the building, and we shall not advance matters by a measure which will enable us to force owners to sell “eligible” sites. Another suggestion—that those building houses should be relieved from income tax on the money so expended for a term of years is more to the point, and is fair from the point of view of the community as the building of houses by voluntary means would relieve the taxpayer who would not have to provide money for grants or subsidies. But we would add to the proposals of our contemporary the suggestion that those providing

housing should also be relieved from the incidence of local rating. This, too, can be fairly done, as the provision of voluntary housing would relieve both the ratepayer and the taxpayer. But the past interference with the rights of those who own a particular form of property has done nothing but harm, and an end should be put to any rent restriction.

We are not at all likely to see such suggestions as we have referred to put in force by the new administration, whose policy is far more likely to be to bolt and bang the door on private enterprise and once more tread the weary round of State control and interference. If they do so their policy will fail as has that of their predecessors, but sooner or later we shall have to resume the saner methods abandoned.

We have little faith in anything which is likely to be done to prevent rings and combines unless the whole enquiry is broadened sufficiently to include the ring or combine of Trade Unionism with its deliberate policy of restricting the number of workers and interfering with attempts to raise output by the encouragement of those who make the best use of their time. The profits of rings and combines do not end with that of the employer, but consist for the most part in the enhanced cost of slow and unwilling labour. The brick-makers’ prices depend in a large measure on what he has to pay for coal, and the collier is unwilling to consider methods which would at one and the same time add to his weekly earnings and decrease the overhead charges of the collieries. Workmen in the building trades are obstinately unwilling not only to consider an increase of working hours but even oppose the employers’ very reasonable proposal of making the working day longer in summer than in winter. It is such considerations and questions as those which should be investigated if we are anxious to secure more and better houses at prices which people can be expected to pay willingly, and until they are dealt with we may say that nothing done can make good the shortage of which we complain.

We give lists week by week of houses to be built all over the country, but although it sounds like progress in making up deficiencies it is a progress which is ruinous to the finances of the community. Every house so built is costing the ratepayer and taxpayer anything from £80 to £150 a piece, and though the lists are long they would be short compared with what was being built year by year before 1910, without any financial help whatever. But the building which was going on automatically was unrecorded, and until our politicians meddled with the laws of demand and supply that automatic process was sufficient. As it is, the effect of what has been done is wholly unfortunate. It has sapped the independence of the working classes without supplying them with what was needed, it has served to buttress up unreason on the part of the Trades Unions, and it is building up a race which looks on the State as a fairy godmother, but one whose gifts are never appreciated as being sufficient by the recipients.

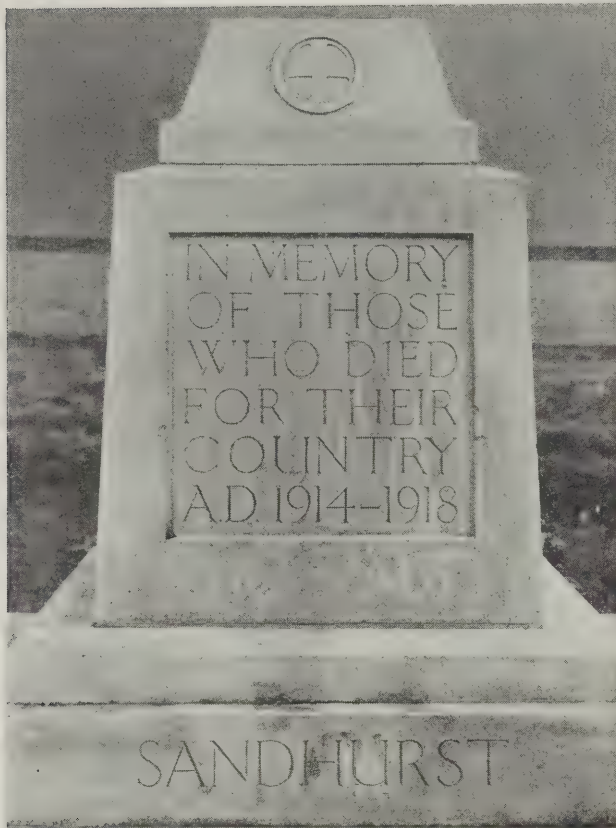
We freely admit that in many cases wages now paid are far from being excessive for the wants of the earners, and in some cases they are even inadequate, but they are all that industry can pay if it is to be kept going. The one and only solution of our troubles is increased output, not decreased wages, and a time must

come when even Labour must recognise this. When and not till this time comes under any Government shall we reach the solution of our troubles and climb the ascent which alone leads to national prosperity, which cannot be achieved by the spoliation of any class or classes.

Our Illustrations.

SANDHURST WAR MEMORIAL. WILLIAM T. BENSLYN, A.R.I.B.A.
HOUSE DECORATED IN SGRAFFITO AT ANDEER, SWITZERLAND.
HOUSE IN FELISUR, SWITZERLAND.

Notes and Comments.



SANDHURST WAR MEMORIAL PLINTH.
WILLIAM T. BENSLYN, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

The Fine Arts Commission.

Those public bodies who wish to erect monuments will be able to obtain advice from the Fine Arts Commission, which has now been organised on the lines of the American Fine Arts Commission, which has been in existence since 1910. This body is composed of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, K.T. (chairman); the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, K.G.; Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., architect; Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., architect; Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., architect; Mr. Alfred J. Gotch, P.R.I.B.A., architect; Sir George Frampton, R.A., sculptor; Mr. D. Y. Cameron, R.A., painter; and Mr. T. H. Mawson, president of the Town Planning Institute.

The status of the Commission is advisory, with no power of veto, and no statutory powers in the first instance.

Its advice may be sought by the Government, or any authority of standing, on the location of and designs for statues, fountains and monuments in public places, both in London and the provinces.

Artistic questions, such as elevations of buildings, town planning, and landscape gardening in public parks, and the internal decoration of public buildings, may also be submitted for the Commission's advice.

The services of the members of the Commission will be honorary, and they will not be able to sit to consider any

question in which any individual member is professionally interested.

We hope the new body will prove useful, and that it will not hesitate to exercise control from time to time in a negative manner by discouraging attempts to erect memorials where there were both inadequate funds and inadequate scope. We are sometimes reminded of the story told of a well-known architect who was dealing with a church committee who wanted to have the customary features of a great church without paying for it. "Why not pay half-a-crown more," was the suggestion made, "and have a really fine spire."

What Might Happen to Trafalgar Square.

Scientists are greatly impressed with the Einstein Theory, which has established the fact that rays of light do not follow straight lines. In the world of Art we have also the Epstein Theory which would lead us to scrap most of what has been admired in the past. May we add that in order to agree with Mr. Epstein our thoughts and convictions would have to travel along unusual roads. Now as to Trafalgar Square, to begin with, the lions, which are appalling, must go and the column must come down, as it is absurdly high. Mr. Epstein is imaginative and probably sees in the past glories of English history the triumph of obsolete prejudices. We do not know what he would give us in place of the Nelson column, probably a symbolic representation of the effect of the Palais Royal on the moral character of the English race. Mr. Epstein has produced a Venus as she might have been imagined by the prehistoric inhabitants of Easter Island. We quote from a Philistine contemporary:—

"Having felled the Nelson Column as the Paris Communards felled the Vendôme Column, and cleared away the other monuments, Mr. Epstein proposes to rebuild the National Gallery. The new monuments in the Square are not disclosed, but one imagines that they will include the most rugged examples of the new school of statuary. The bust of the West-end beggar man which Mr. Epstein is showing just now at the Leicester Galleries would look well near the bus-stops, and there are other disciples of the Master who would make the Square look like a cubist rockery.

"Mr. Epstein's ideas of monuments may be deduced from his neo-Assyrian design for the Oscar Wilde Memorial, which raised so much controversy in Paris. These Epstein creations are, of course, freaks."

It is of course wicked to call these things freaks. They are revelations, we will not say of what, but those who have imbibed the Epstein Theory may be able to tell us. All we know is that if in Art we could substract the ability which sometimes is to be found buried under extravagancies the world would be both richer and saner.

Clerkenwell.

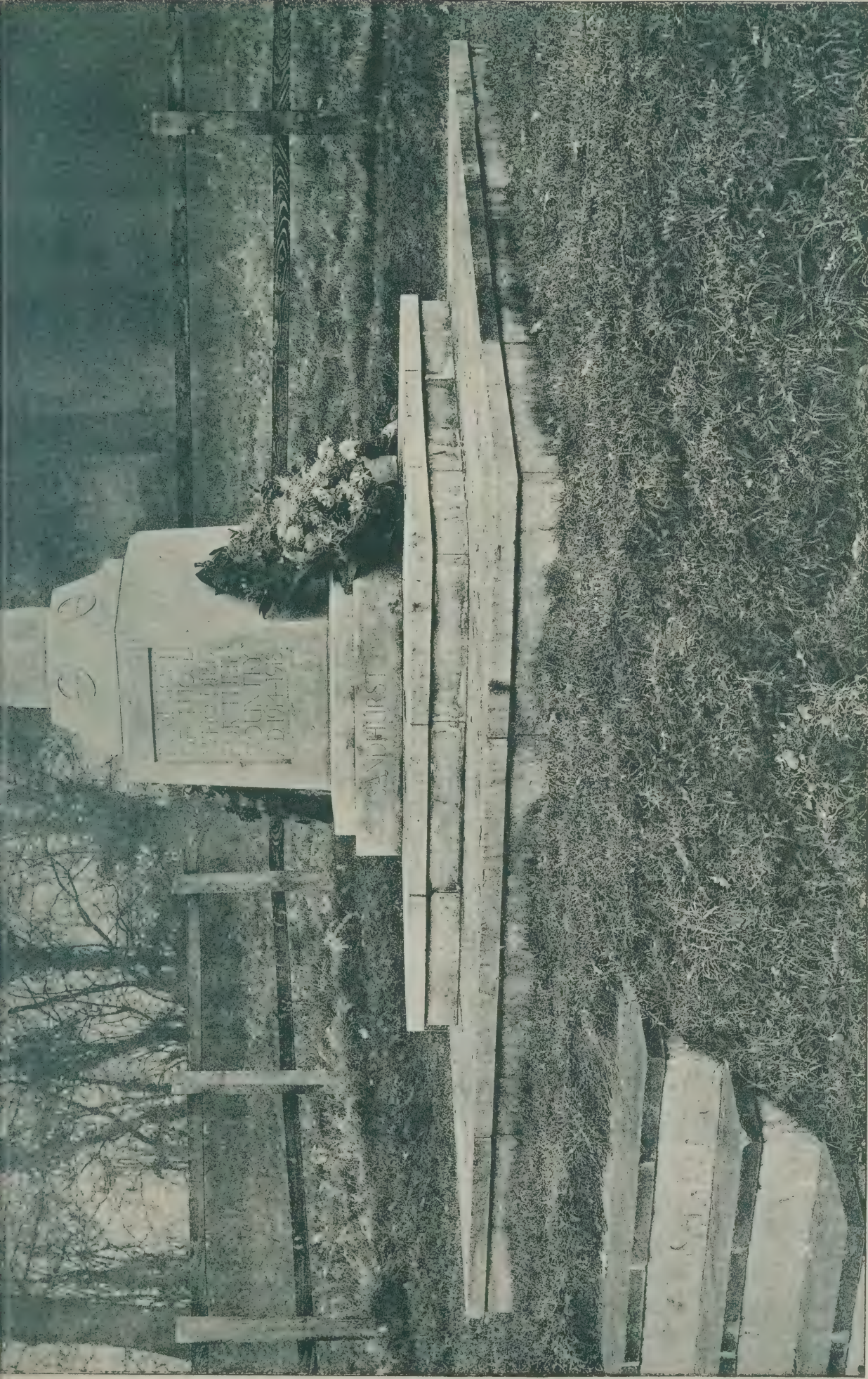
After being hidden for hundreds of years, the old well, from which Clerkenwell takes its name, seems to have been rediscovered and laid bare.

It was called "Clerks' Well," as explained by a tablet of 1800 fixed to the wall of St. James's Church, 100 yards

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THE ARCHITECT, FEBRUARY 1st, 1924.





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SANDHURST WAR MEMORIAL.

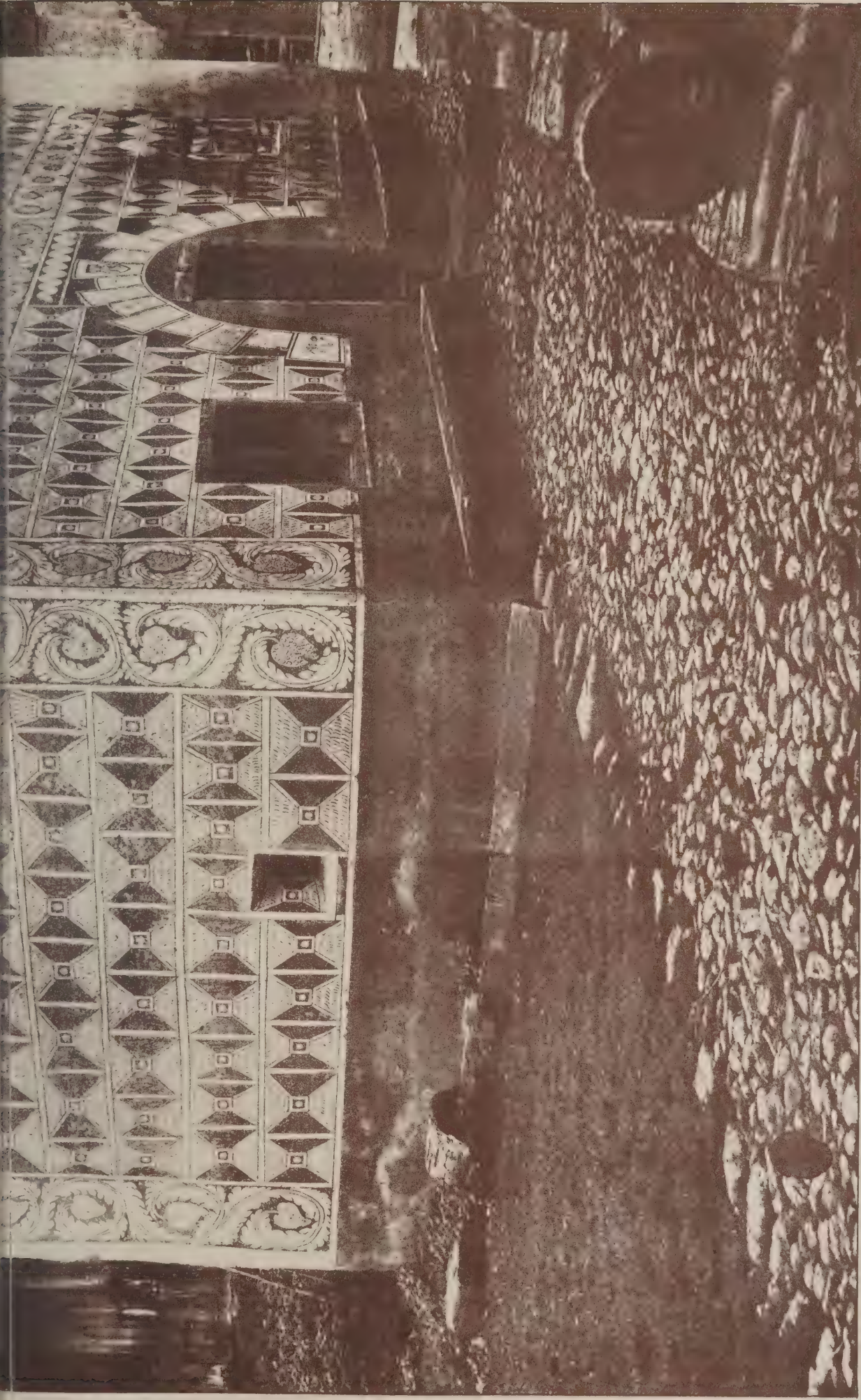
WILLIAM T. BENSLYN, ARCHT.

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A HOUSE DECORATED IN SGRAFFITO AT ANDEER, SWITZERLAND.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY ALBERT STEINER, ST. MORITZ, ENCADINE.

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BURUARY 1st. 1924.



SWITZERLAND.
St. Moritz. Engadine

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SANDHURST MEMORIAL. TERMINAL CROSS.
W. T. BENSLEY, A.R.I.B.A., Architect.

distant, because "the parish clerks of London in remote ages annually performed sacred plays" in front of it.

What is believed to be the "Clerks' Well" has now been discovered under the shop floor of No. 16, Farringdon Road. Nos. 16 and 18 have just been pulled down to make room for a four-storey factory. It was while the workmen were digging to prepare for the new foundations that it was discovered.

In the well are the remains of a leaden suction pump, by which the water, it is said, used to be conveyed to the street outside for the use of priors, nuns, clerks, and ordinary folk.

Close to the well a fine piece of Roman wall has been unearthed. So substantial is it that it is to be used as part of the foundations of the new building.

We wonder whether our successors will some day read of the discovery of traces of the nineteenth century railway bridge which once spanned the Thames at Charing Cross, and whether they will have an accurate presentation of its horrors.

The R.I.B.A. Academic Dress.

At the R.I.B.A. meeting the proposal to adopt an academic dress was approved by a narrow majority.

As it is not a subject of importance or one likely to arouse acute feeling, the decision of the meeting is perfectly harmless and possibly one or two of the more colossally wealthy members of the profession may get these garments made to amuse their home circle or impress their servants. We do not believe they will have the temerity to wear them in public excepting, perhaps, at a fancy dress ball. For our part we should prefer to see some gay sartorial innovations which any of the general public could wear, for we may reflect that the beauty and attractiveness of the academic dress might be such that the profession would be overcrowded by those whose object in taking up the sacred calling is to qualify for the right of wearing the academic dress.

An Unemployed Ultimatum.

The Bristol Unemployed Association—which we hope will not have a long and continued existence—has delivered an ultimatum to the City Council, threatening to seize and occupy all empty houses. They claim that houses are kept unlet for purposes of speculation, and complain of the failure of the City to provide houses. This is odd, because no city has done more than Bristol within the last few years. We do not suppose that the unemployed, a large proportion of whom are probably unemployables, are accessible to reason, if they were they might reflect that the fact that in spite of the city having done more than most in providing houses while there is still acute shortage, proves that it is wiser to rely on the methods of the past, when most people got at least what they most urgently required. And if we want to get back to past conditions it must be by the recognition that a man has a right to deal with his property as he thinks best. If he is allowed to do this it makes him active in his endeavours, and the community reaps the benefit of his activities. If he holds up rents, it induces others to build, and rents tend to fall because the supply is enlarged. But if the speculator is penalised, it forces the State to interfere, and the State, except in our dreams, cannot cope with the demands made upon it.

Skilled Labour in the Building Trades.

America, like ourselves, has been suffering from the effects of a great shortage of skilled labour in the building trade, but unlike ourselves, it is being dealt with energetically. Trade schools have been organised at short notice in a dozen or more of the larger centres. They are organised and supported by a committee appointed by the boards of education, the trade unions, the master builders, and last—but by no means least—the manufacturers of building materials.

Young men from 15 to 25 years of age are eligible. They spend their whole time for a comparatively short period at the schools. They are then taken over by the master builders for a further period, working one-half their time on actual building operations and the other half at the schools. During this second stage they receive the advantage of instruction from the skilled operative working with them, and also a fair rate of pay from the employers for their services. Skilled workmen are being produced by this system in an incredibly short space of time.

This would be objected to here as dilution, but it is difficult to see how we can get on without dilution in some form or other. The unions should bear in mind that the shortage of skilled labour and the difficulties of coping with it tend to discourage building which would otherwise go on, and so it restricts the opportunities of labour, and so militates against the prosperity of those who are in the unions. By enlarging the supply, labour would unquestionably stimulate the demand, and would so be the gainer in the end.

A Much Needed Improvement.

In a great majority of cases road improvements in towns are difficult to effect because they involve the reconstruction of buildings or the purchase of additional arms to be thrown into the public roadways. But one of the worst and most dangerous areas in London could be reconstructed without difficulty. We refer to the area between the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Bridge, the Abbey, and Victoria Street and Whitehall. At present it is intersected with cross-roads, islands and untidy open spaces, and despite the multiplicity of roadways, traffic is constantly congested. What it always seems to us is wanted here is one circular roadway, which all traffic would follow, travelling in one direction, with a large garden in the centre architecturally treated. The space is there, but is improperly utilised, and those who have to cross any of the tangle of roadways at night or in foggy weather know how dangerous and confusing they are. It has always seemed to us curious that in one of the most important situations in London, this defect has never been removed, and that it has not engaged the attention of the Westminster City Council, the County Council, or any of the Societies which have the well-being of London at heart.

Sketching in Lead Pencil for Architects and Others.

By JASPER SALWEY, A.R.I.B.A.

Article IV.—A Week with a Sketch Book and Two-Foot Rule.



PLATE XXII. AT WINCHESTER.

Before passing on too quickly, in our consideration of methods of sketching, to what may be termed the geometrical styles, we must not miss out half-timber and timber buildings, buildings, in fact, that may be said to belong more or less to the Tudor period, for these may be considered by many to be the most attractive and the most sketchable.

The way to go about this, however, is fairly obvious, as Plate 22 will show. The need arises for some very definite method when rich ornament is discovered, and it is seldom even in the lesser buildings of the Tudor style that at least some ornament is not introduced. To give the right emphasis to this and to make its design or pattern clear, as much time must be bestowed upon it as, perhaps, upon a whole façade of plain half-timber work.

The leading lines and proportions of the patterns, the motif of the ornament, so to speak, must first be thoroughly comprehended, and these leading lines or basis of the design should be lightly plotted out. A flat tone can then be laid round about these lines, making definite omissions here and there should high lights be desired. The shape of the carved timber, barge-board beam, lintel or whatever it may be can thus be given not less than its full amount of space in your sketch, and the great difficulty of trying to delineate intricate ornament in a space too small for its accommodation is avoided.

Having thus drawn your beam, proceed to indicate the carving which is in lowest relief by applying dexterous touches of half-tone, and proceed from these to a representation of the deeper cutting, leaving a reserve of deepest tone for any perforation.

Of course the depth of the tones of shade in your sketch depends on whether the feature you are sketching is in sunlight or shade. In the former you must make every touch deeper and crisper than you will necessarily need to in the latter.

If part of the feature you are sketching is in light and part in shade, or has a strong cast shadow from some adjacent object upon it, the necessary effect is most simply and perhaps best accomplished by drawing the whole as if

in light, and then superimposing a flat, definite tone where required. A hard pencil should be used for this, as it will give a flat and transparent effect and will not confuse the work already done.

Plate 23 will illustrate the method just described, and there is Pugin's book of Gables; a set of carefully-studied examples of ornate barge boards, etc., and reproduced by lithography from lead-pencil drawings, which should certainly be seen.

The large old timber barns which flank many a farmyard may be considered, perhaps, too simple for the architect's pencil, but even a timber-and-thatch barn can be architectural, and by reason of its fine proportions, absence of small features and massive roof construction present a dignified subject. The sketch of the barn at Popholes Farm (Plate 24) is carried out in the same direct and spontaneous method which we are advocating.

The sketching of buildings, which are in any way matured examples of what may be termed the geometrical styles—that is, buildings in which sequence and repetition of delicate ornament is added to proportion and symmetry will be found a more advanced matter, for correctness in drawing becomes absolutely essential, yet a sense of breadth and spontaneity has still to be preserved. This logically and obviously means that without attaining to accuracy of observation this cannot be altogether accomplished. Crispness of touch can only come from placing every stroke upon the paper once, and only once, and that one time in its correct position to fall into line with the whole sketch. This, of course, is by no means so easy to do when the building or feature you are sketching is definitely based on geometrical form, as it was when you were sketching objects the design of which was more haphazard and symmetrical and the detail bolder and more *naturalesque*. The sketcher should certainly not plunge too deep at first in this new direction else disappointment is always inevitable. A sketch may be accomplished, but it will probably not be in that clear, confident manner which you may have "brought off" in lesser subjects.

Why not reserve this new departure, for it will be found to be quite a new departure, for some occasion when you have a clear week at least before you to give to this kind of study? Choose a town or city where the architecture is varied and the old examples are good and plentiful.

There are surely few finer sketching grounds than the city of Winchester, where all the styles from 900 to the present day, with a tendency to skip only the Tudor period, are to be found almost in their perfection, and early Georgian houses abound. But whatever place you select, choose first some subject as that illustrated in Plate 25, in which brick and tile predominate, and yet this new feature with which you are concerned—viz., Renaissance form and detail, enters in; because in doing this the sketcher will discover just how necessary it is to bestow care and practice on the drawing of those early and refined features which are the characteristic of this style.

Referring still to Plate 25, it will be seen that the sketching of the gables and tile hanging, etc., the walling and chimneys, though so effective in this method, simply requires a closer application of these principles already explained for bold stonework in Article III., but the drawing in of the balustrade of the bridge is really quite another matter. Close application, a very careful eye for proportion, and a certain amount of quite delicate drawing must be bestowed upon it if it is to hold its own in the sketch, and present that appearance of refinement and dignity which in reality differentiate it entirely from surrounding objects. From this you can go on to some such subject as that shown in Plate 26, where the new forms you wish to become familiar with almost predominate, and where there is plenty of variety of tone, of light and shade, and little perspective problems for you to try your



PLATE XXIII.

hand at. Because if you can make something really effective and useful of so interesting a subject as this you will be well on the way to doing what you want to do with anything you may discover in the way of domestic subjects at least. You will need to give quite one busy day to each subject of this kind—that is, if you are really going to study all the little problems; and when I say a busy day, I mean a day in which you “stick at it” from early morning to late afternoon, and you break off when you feel you have mastered what you have been trying to do.

Such a subject as Plate 26 could doubtless be sketched in a certain manner in a couple of hours, but by rushing it through in that way you are only going to get a result which approximates to your subject; you are going to miss all its subtleties which you are after in the stage of progress you should have now reached. You should now in the course of these self-imposed tasks be preparing yourself for anything however fine and delicate, because it is presumed that you are sketching mainly to study architecture and not to be just pictorial. We will consider the question of what may be said to be purely pictorial in the next and last article. The success of fine design is so largely a question of the amount and the proportions of the detail. Architecture, providing it is broad in design and generous in conception, cannot be too careful, too selective, too intimate. So in your sketching do not slur over these wonderful little refinements which make the old work so appealing, so satisfying to the taste and scrutiny of even the most cultured connoisseur. Look at the sketches made by Eden Nesfield, and then look at examples of his executed work, and see how the one is really the result of the other.

You should, if the weather has been favourable, have at least three days of your week left, and these should now be given to the study of the purely four square, the orderly and the symmetrical, to what, in fact, you must learn to sketch, but which is not so obviously sketchable as the kind of subjects you have been working on. Take a good, straightforward example of a Jacobean or Georgian house, and worry out the secret of its beauty by making a careful sketch of it—brick by brick, because this will give you texture and quality and brick-jointing; window by window, and pane by pane, because you will perceive thus the theories of proportion on which the whole design is based; cornice, pediment, doorway, because you will find them so difficult—each a lesson in itself; ornament, because this is the most difficult of all; ironwork, because it will enter your soul. You can lead on from this to sketches of the most elaborate work or to such refinements as are found in the Adams style, employing always that direct crisp

method which you should now be mastering. The success, however, of sketching buildings of the more formal type depends mostly on developing an aptitude for judging distances and proportion and conveying them to the paper in a correct unhesitating manner.

Plate 27 is a very modest example of what might be done in this sphere.

Do not fail also, if any time and opportunity offers and you think there is value in it, to supplement your sketches with a few measurements, or to select any specially remarkable features for record in this way; but it will be found that no amount of measuring will convey to the beauty and the value of a building or a feature so well as a good direct sketch.



PLATE XXIV. BARN AT POPHOLES.

In the final article we will review what is really the ultimate development of this manner of sketching, and show it applied to more comprehensive subjects to what brings such work up to the starting-point of pictorial art.

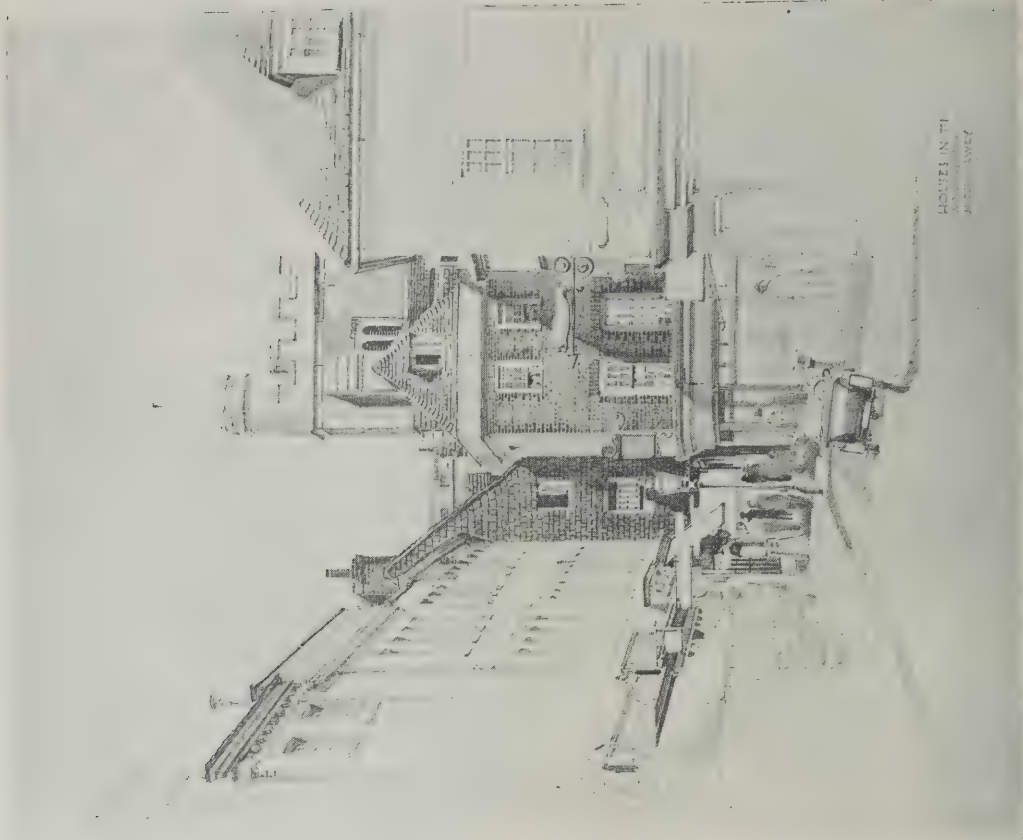
A French Ferro-Concrete Church.

We give illustrations of a French concrete church, through the courtesy of our contemporary “Concrete,” because it is an unusually clever and successful attempt to use a new material. Nor is it as many similar buildings are, weird and bizarre, for though it completely departs from tradition it is aesthetically good and suitable. The window treatment which forms a concrete lattice for glazing is effective, the arched ceiling, with its slender supports, is both effective and harmonious in treatment and detail. The exterior of the church, which we do not give, is unhappy, but probably the designer was swayed by his desire to produce a striking mass to please his clients, for we cannot believe that anyone capable of designing the interior could not have done much better if he had been unfettered by outside influence. The internal treatment gives a fair measure of the architect’s ability; the exterior is clearly marred by the pressure of the opinions or wishes of others.



SOKE BRIDGE
WINCHESTER
JANUARY 1924

PLATE XXV. SOKE BRIDGE, WINCHESTER.



HOUSES IN THE
SQUARE
JANUARY 1924

PLATE XXVI. HOUSES IN THE SQUARE, WINCHESTER.

SKETCHING IN LEAD PENCIL FOR ARCHITECTS AND OTHERS.



A HOUSE, EARLY EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY STYLE. JASPER SALWEY.

Concrete Year Book, 1924.

Edited by Oscar Faber, O.B.E., D.Sc., and H. L. Childe, M.J.I., this volume has been prepared in order to endeavour to fill a need with regard to the concrete industry which hitherto has not possessed either a handbook or directory specially prepared to represent this ever-growing industry.

The book aims at three special services :—(1) The supplying of information with regard to the practical applications of concrete and reinforced concrete ; (2) a directory in which may be found the names of most of those who in one way or another are interested in concrete and reinforced concrete ; also the names of qualified advisers on the subject, such as consulting engineers, designers, specialists. In addition lists are included of firms supplying either materials or machinery necessary to the industry. These lists are very well arranged, and classified in such a way as to make the Year Book of very real use to all who seek information ; (3) a catalogue of those firms interested and manufacturing all the various needs of this industry.

Wembley Empire Exhibition.

During the past six weeks the progress has been very considerable in spite of very bad weather conditions. The mud, of course, is terrible, and but for the kindness of one of the members of the official office staff, who lent us gum boots, the visit last Saturday would have had to be abandoned. But with these splendid if rather heavy boots it was possible to mark the great changes that have taken place during the past weeks. Given fair weather, the Exhibition should be very nearly ready on the official opening day. The Amusement Section is to-day anything but a pleasure to inspect, though the construction of the switchback railway is a sight well worth seeing—a regular forest of timber construction.

The Indian Pavilion will attract and please a great number of visitors. Even to-day there is every evidence that this building will be a very successful piece of work.

The Gold Coast building, especially the interior, will be quite unique, and the Moorish pavilion or building with a Moorish architectural touch opposite the Nigeria pavilion is very good externally, though rather disappointing at present inside. The Machinery and Industrial Halls are so huge that they are difficult to comprehend. One is inclined to fancy that the whole floor space of the Olympia could be easily accommodated in either of these buildings. This may not be so, but they certainly impress one as being immense in floor area. We were not favourably inclined towards the pointed arches that run in the colonnades to support the roof in either of these halls.

The effect is ecclesiastical and rather out of place. Externally some very fine elevation masses have been thought out, though nothing architecturally impressive meets the eye at present. The Stadium disappoints in every way ; the detail is not refined. What we wrote about the Australian Pavilion in our previous report is being borne out.

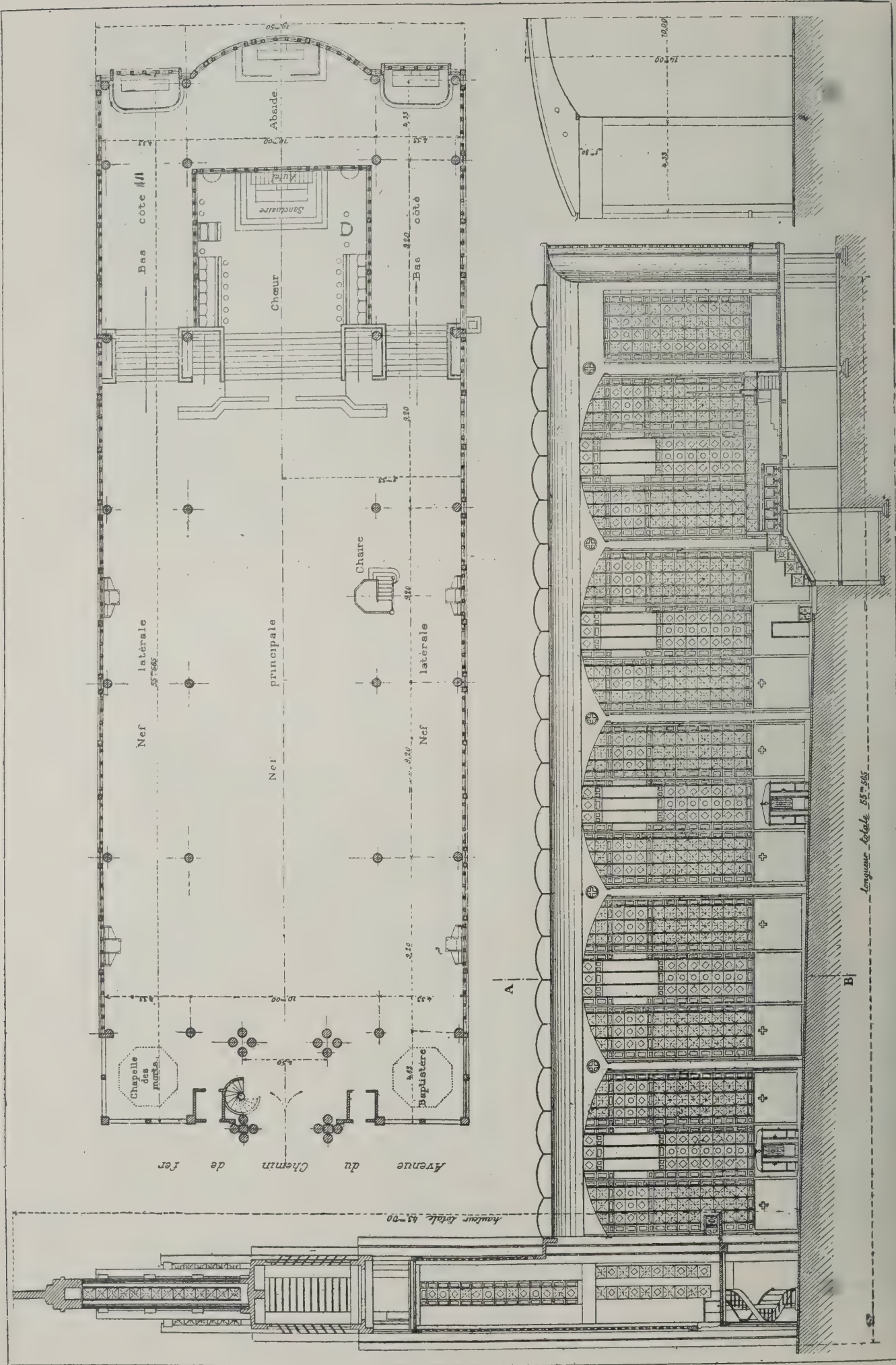
A general lack of imagination prevails. Our visitors will not, we fear, leave the Exhibition with a feeling of awe and wonderment. African natives may wonder at the mighty Empire, but civilised communities will undoubtedly think that as an Empire show the buildings are rather poor stuff.

But summer weather and fine gardens may make a vast difference and set off the architectural efforts in a better way to the present foreground conditions.

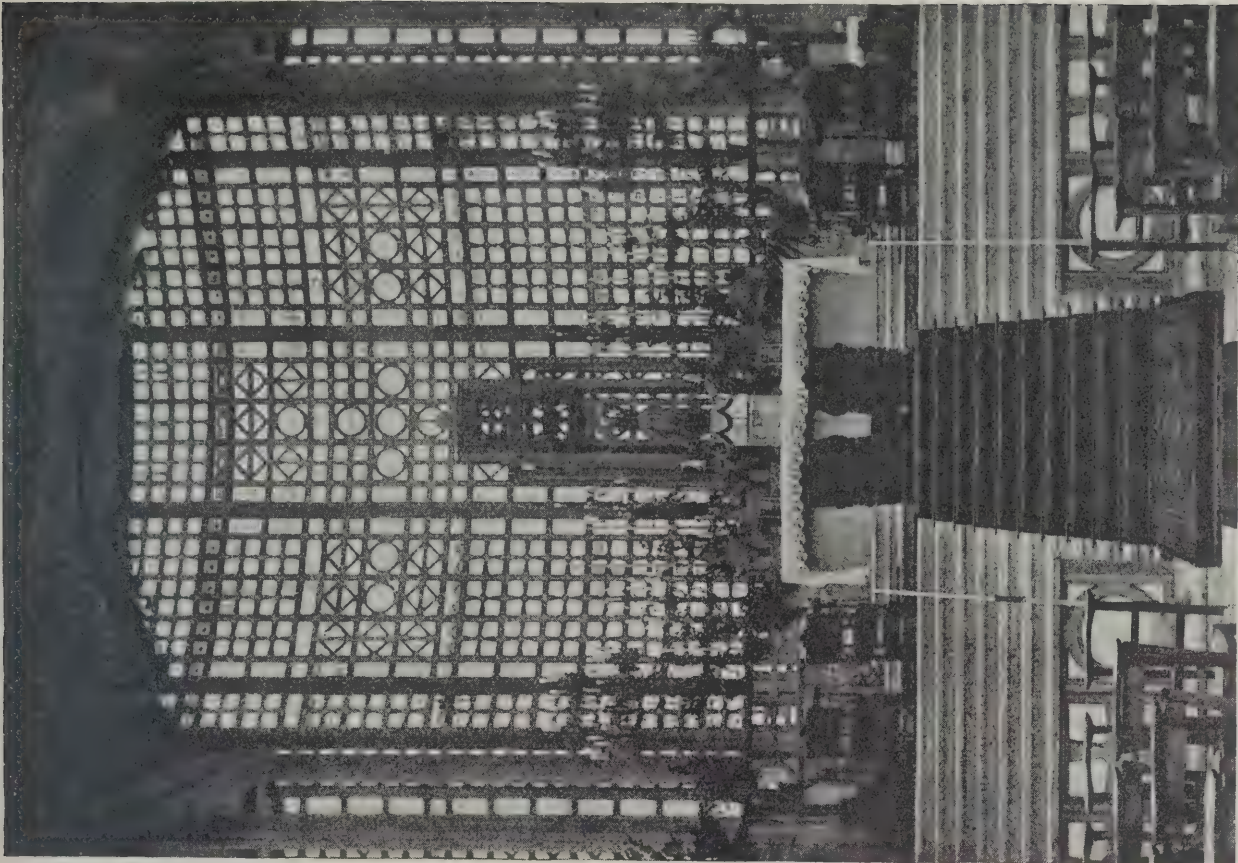
"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JANUARY 31, 1874.

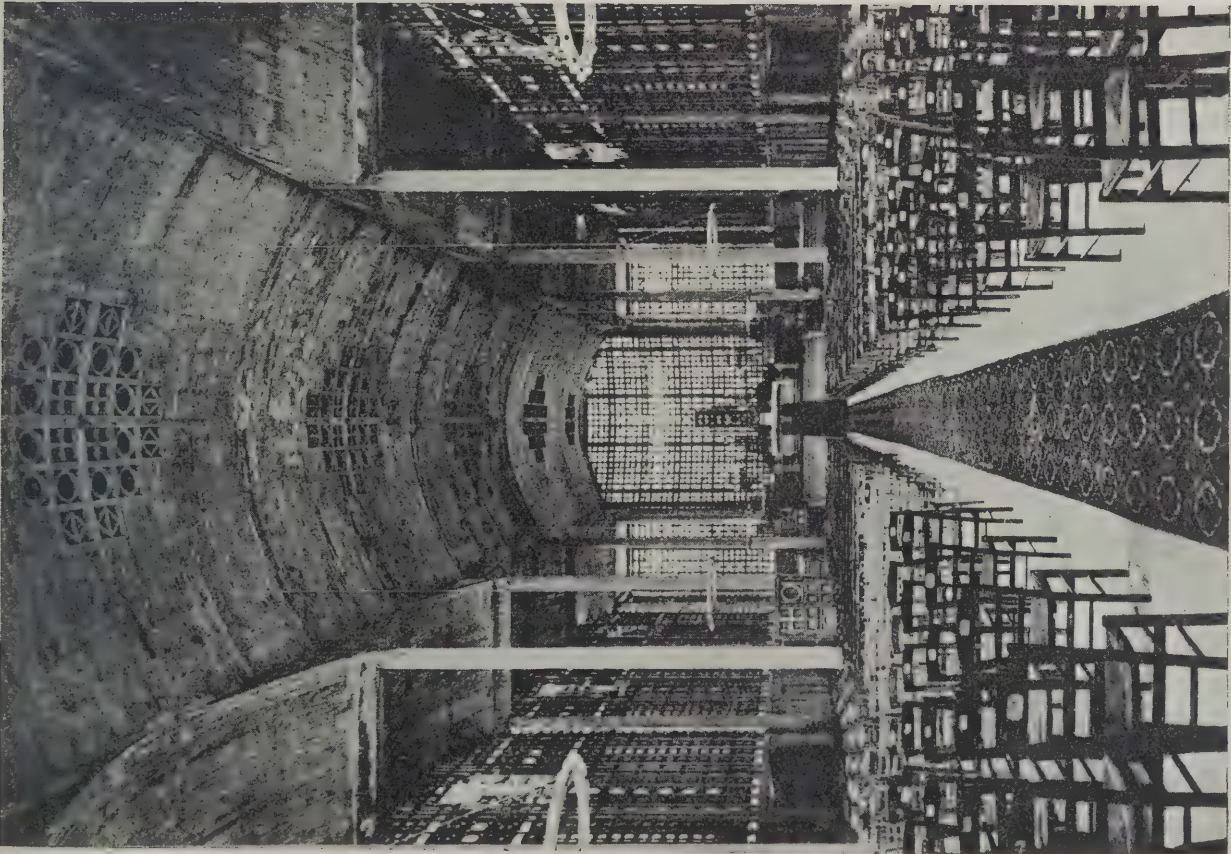
HONOUR TO MR. ALBERT GRANT !—To him and to his heirs for ever be accorded the merit of having delivered London from a plague spot as noxious to the national character in the days of VICTORIA as his vicinity to the national health in the time of CHARLES II. Leicester Square, to the majority of our foreign visitors, is the best remembered *place* of the English metropolis. True, Trafalgar Square has a prior right to equal distinction, but the very few Frenchmen who know to what battle it owes its name—since the history of France is never taught to her children except under Government supervision—naturally retain brighter memories of the riderless horse opposite the Alhambra, than the shapeless incongruities in front of the National Gallery. It is gratifying to reflect that a metropolitan hoarding is likely to be removed. That at Temple Bar has necessarily a prolonged lease of existence proper to it; as the land within the well-known placarded boards is national property, we are bound to protect it from the sacrilege of gutter children, for whom it appears there is no vacant spot in the neighbourhood to serve as playground—bound by the duty we owe to our great-grand-children, who will probably devote the site to new Law Courts, the erection of which appears to have been indefinitely postponed in order that an economical ministry may free our incomes as well as our breakfast-tables. The Leicester Square of the future is to be adorned with busts, supported on granite pedestals, of NEWTON, HOGARTH, REYNOLDS, and JOHNSON. MR. GRANT will probably succeed in making the square artistically clean, but who is to keep it physically and morally free from dirt? The Board of Works cannot, and the Vestry will not.



CONCRETE CHURCH AT RAINCY, FRANCE: PLAN AND LONGITUDINAL SECTION.



CONCRETE CHURCH AT RAINCY, FRANCE : SHOWING THE CONCRETE TRACERY OF WHICH PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE OF THE WALLING IS FORMED.

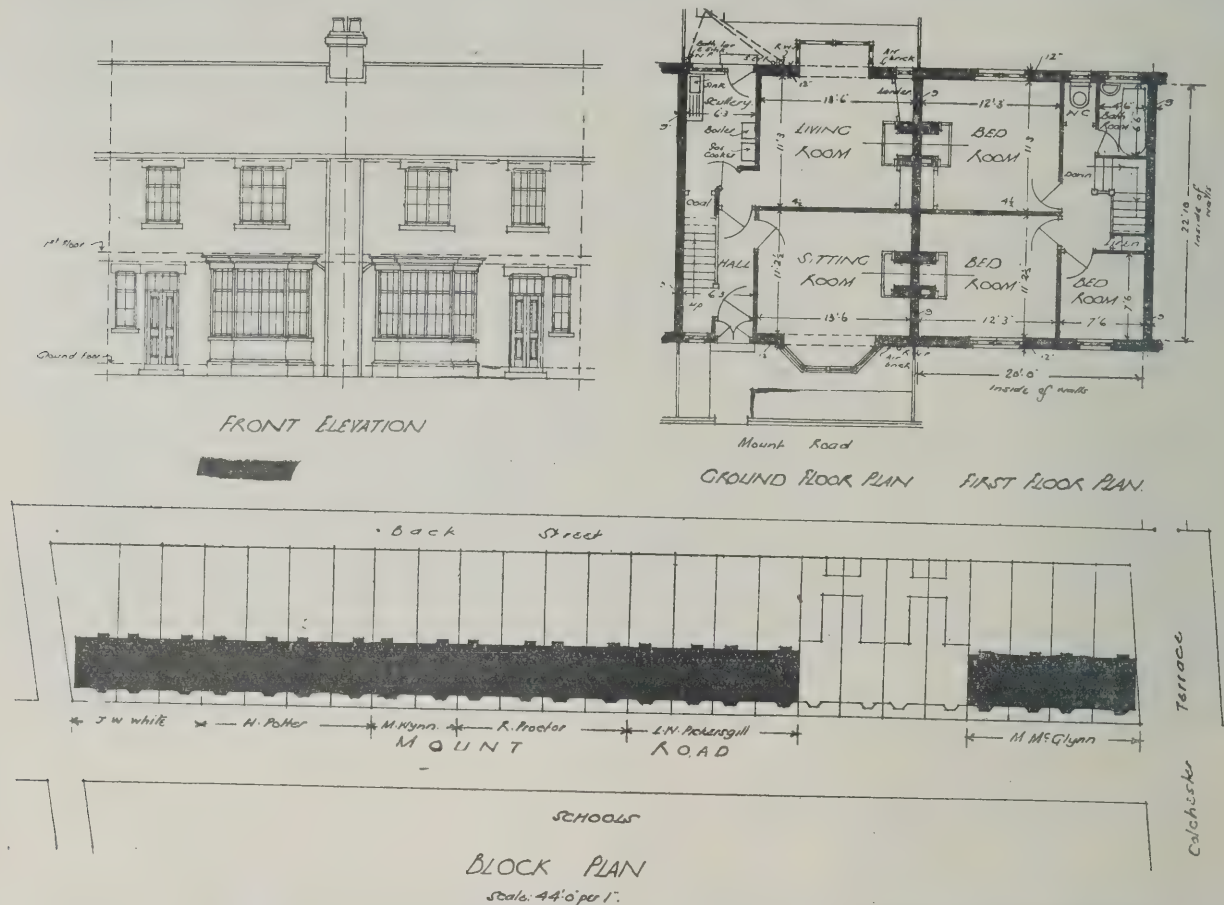


CONCRETE CHURCH AT RAINCY, FRANCE : GENERAL VIEW OF THE INTERIOR.

The Housing, Etc., Act, 1923, and the Application of its Provisions to the Encouragement of House Building by Private Enterprise.

W. Milburn, Junr., B.Sc., A.R.I.B.A., P.A.S.I.

READ BEFORE THE NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM BRANCH OF THE SURVEYORS' INSTITUTION ON JANUARY 18, 1924.



TYPE OF FIVE-ROOMED TERRACE HOUSE APPROVED FOR SUBSIDY. SUNDERLAND CORPORATION.

One of the most urgent and important problems with which the nation is faced at the present day is the provision of houses for the working classes. Prior to the war more than 90 per cent. of such houses were built by private enterprise, mostly by the speculative builder. The Finance Act of 1910 was a factor in curbing the production of houses, and during the war their provision ceased altogether.

The Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919, which became law in July of that year, essayed to solve the problem of the lack of housing accommodation. Under this Act it became the duty of the local authorities to consider the needs of their area, to prepare and submit a scheme and to provide the necessary number of houses. If there were an annual loss on the scheme the liability of the local authority was limited to the annual produce of a rate of one penny in the pound on the area, the remaining deficit being borne by the State. The tremendous energy which was devoted to make the provisions of this Act a success and its ultimate failure, particularly from the financial point of view, are well known.

The cost to the State during the next sixty years for the 170,000 houses completed under this Act is, I understand, in the neighbourhood of nine million pounds per annum, representing an annual loss of over £50 per house. The total capital expenditure on these houses has, I believe, amounted to about 190 million pounds, or an average capital cost of about £1,100 per house.

In December, 1919, the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, was passed, one of the sections of which provided for the grant to private builders of a lump sum subsidy for the erection of a certain class of house in a limited time. I understand that about 40,000 houses were completed under these provisions at a capital expenditure of nearly ten million pounds, which amounts to an average grant of about £240 per house.

In July, 1921, the Government decided to limit the number of houses to be provided under these two Acts to 216,000, which number has, I believe, now been completed.

The Government are now largely looking to private enterprise to provide the necessary houses, and the Housing, etc., Act, 1923, primarily encourages the provision of housing accommodation by private enterprise.

THE HOUSING, ETC., ACT, 1923.

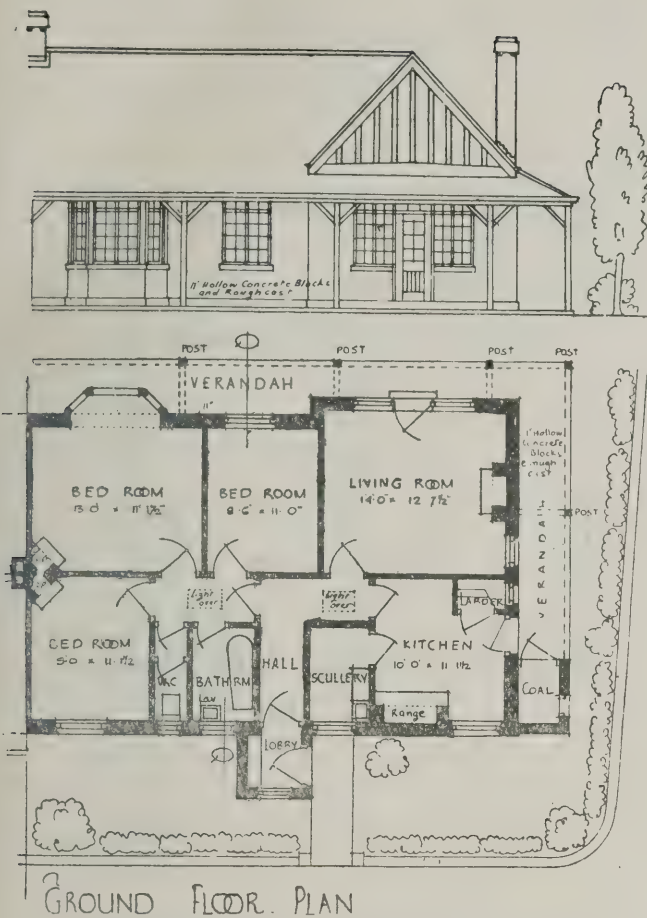
The Act became law on July 31, 1923, and its provisions are well summarised in the Ministry of Health Circular 388A, dated August 14, 1923.

Part 1 of the Act embodies the temporary provisions for encouraging the Provision of Housing Accommodation. A local authority's proposals may take the form of assistance to private enterprise or of the provision of houses by the local authority themselves. As regards houses provided by private enterprise, the local authority must first satisfy the Minister that the houses proposed to be built would not be provided unless financial assistance were forthcoming. The maximum sum which the Government will contribute is a fixed annual payment made to the local authority of £6 a year for 20 years in respect of each house completed within the prescribed period. The local authority, however, are empowered to give more or less than the equivalent of £6 a year for 20 years by way of lump sum per house to induce private enterprise to proceed.

Under Section 2 of the Act assistance by the local authority to private enterprise may be either (a) a lump sum grant per house, (b) an annual payment for a period of not more than twenty years to the person by whom the rates are payable, or (c) periodical payments to a building society or other body of a part of the amounts due in respect of interest and redemption charges on advances made for the building of a house or for the purchase of a new house.

The houses which will qualify for assistance may be (a) two-storey cottages, (b) one-storey cottages or bungalows, or (c) houses built in flats, each flat being treated as one house. The minimum superficial area in the case of a two-storey cottage is 620 superficial feet and the maximum 950 superficial feet, and in the case of a one-storey cottage or flat the minimum area is 550 superficial feet and the maximum area 880 superficial feet. The houses must be completed before October 1, 1925, but provision is made for the extension of the date to June 1, 1926, in certain cases.

The local authority has discretion as to the maximum density, but the Minister is of opinion that a density of approximately twelve houses per acre represents a desirable standard, and



TYPE OF BUNGALOW APPROVED BY THE SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1923.

that as a general rule a local authority should not approve the building of more than twenty houses on any one acre. The houses must be constructed in a proper and workmanlike manner and of a type of construction for which a period of not less than 60 years would be allowed by the Ministry of Health for the repayment of a loan. Except when otherwise approved, every house or flat to be eligible for subsidy must be provided with a fixed bath.

The local Bye-Laws do not apply to the case of houses which are eligible for subsidy under the Act in so far as they are inconsistent with the approved plans. Sections 12 and 13 of the Act provide for the revocation of existing Bye-Laws and the making of new Bye-Laws where, in consequence of the existing Bye-Laws, the erection of buildings is or is likely to be unreasonably impeded.

Important provisions are made under section 5 of the Act empowering a local authority to advance loans to builders and others for construction of houses of which the estimated value does not exceed £1,500.

A very important provision is that a local authority is empowered to guarantee to a building society an advance to any of its members up to 90 per cent. of the value of a house having an estimated value of not more than £1,500. The guarantee is given in respect of the excess advance over that normally granted, and enables a building society to advance a larger proportion of the cost of a house than its rules normally allow. In this way it is hoped that many persons who could not otherwise find the necessary capital will be enabled to build houses for their own occupation.

The foregoing is a brief summary of what I consider to be the most important provisions of the Act, but for detailed information and further particulars reference should be made to the Act and Circular 388A themselves.

THE APPLICATION OF THE ACT TO A PROVINCIAL TOWN.

I propose to take the town of Sunderland as an illustration, after five months' working of the Act, of the progress which has been made in the encouragement of building by private enterprise.

Sunderland is a town of 170,000 inhabitants, and it has always contained a large number of owner occupiers. The type of small house built before the war was mostly the six-roomed two-storey terrace house and the one-storey four or three roomed cottage. There were comparatively few houses built after 1910, and in the war years house building ceased altogether. Under

the 1919 legislation, although the Local Authority acquired large tracts of land, they did not eventually embark on any extensive building scheme. The only houses provided under the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919, were 94 houses in the Pallion district on streets which had been paved and sewered before the war. These houses were built by a private builder and purchased by the Corporation under Section 12 (3) of the 1919 Act.

I think I am correct in saying that since the war no small houses have been built in the town by private enterprise until the passing of the 1923 Act. The Local Authority, so soon as the Act became law, set out to encourage private enterprise, and granted a lump sum subsidy of £150 per house for five-roomed houses and £100 per house for smaller houses. The result of the first five months' working of the Act has been encouraging, and by the courtesy of Mr. G. E. Matkin, F.S.I., the housing architect to the Sunderland Corporation, I am enabled to give the following particulars of the number of houses which have been approved for subsidy as at December 31, 1923 :—

Type of House.	Number approved.
Non-parlour	148
Parlour	248
Total	396

The majority of these houses are under construction, and already a number have been completed and occupied. The demand for the houses is very great, and numbers have been sold before the foundations have been laid.

Almost without exception the houses referred to above are erected on estates which were developed before the war, and in the majority of cases the street paving and sewerage of the individual sites was completed before the war.

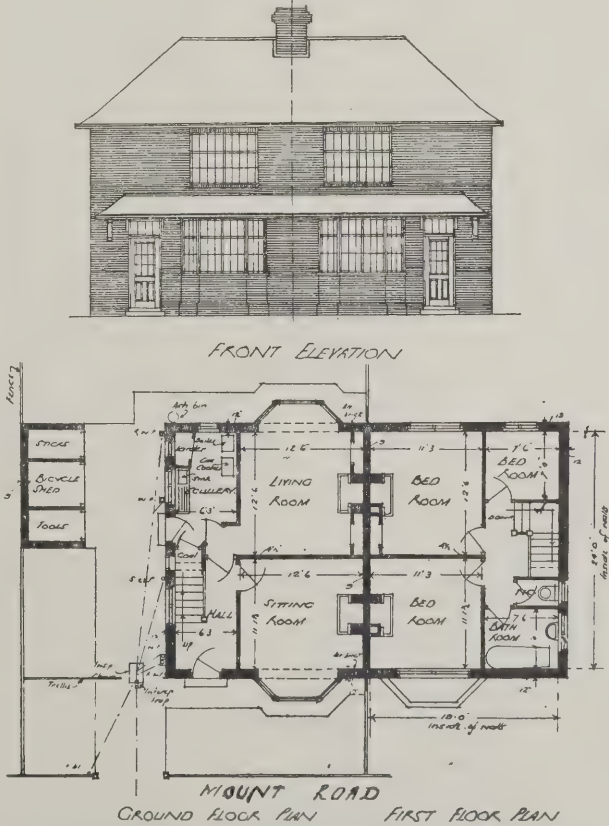
THE NATIONAL POSITION.

By the courtesy of Sir Charles T. Ruthen, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Director-General of Housing, I am able to give the figures of houses approved throughout the country as on January 2, 1924. The numbers are as follows :—

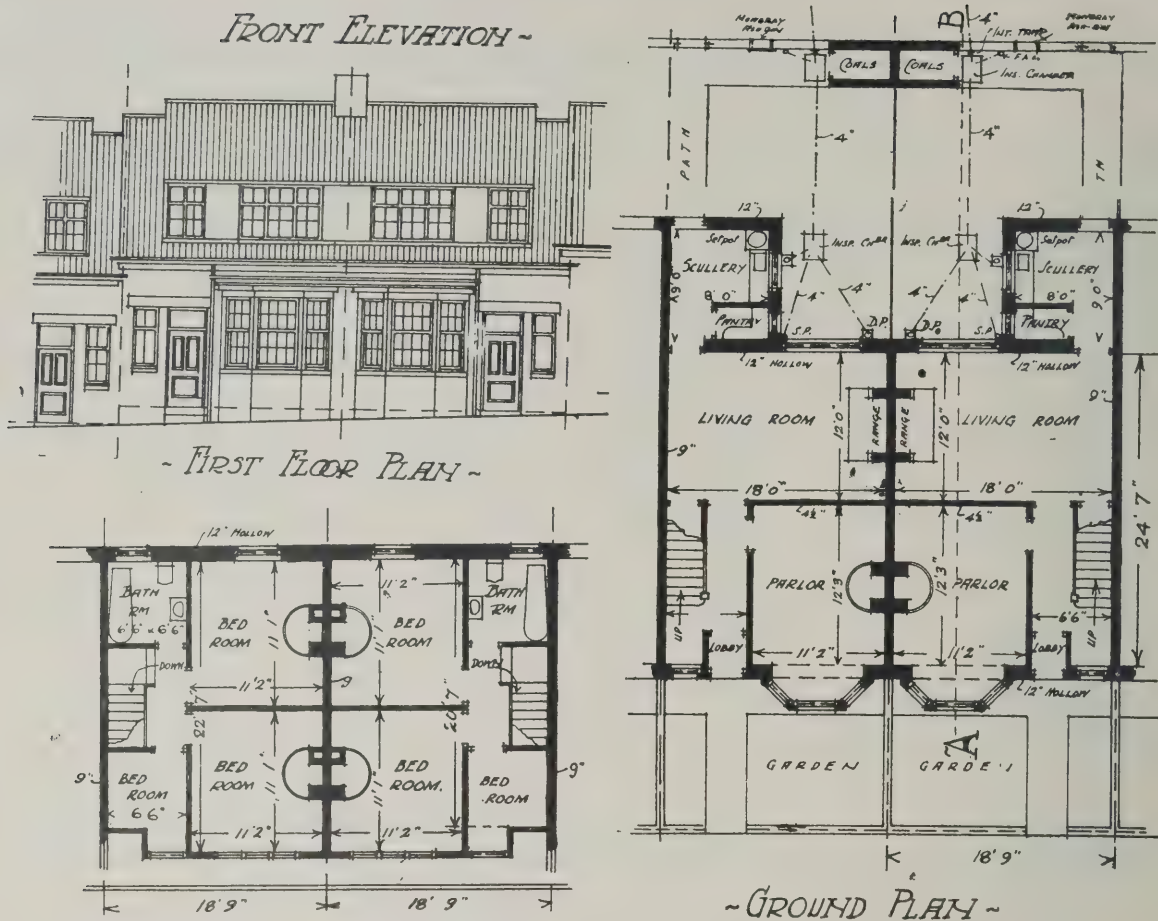
To be erected by local authorities	31,434
Number of local authorities undertaking the erection of houses under the Act	873
To be erected by private enterprise with assistance from local authorities	49,780
By Public Utility Societies	3,822
The total number of houses approved on the above date thus amounts to 85,036.	

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES.

I now propose to place before you a few illustrations of types of houses which have been approved for subsidy under the Act. I do not claim that they possess any special merit or show any



TYPE OF SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE TO WHICH THE SUNDERLAND CORPORATION HAS GRANTED A SUBSIDY OF £150.



FIVE-ROOMED TERRACE HOUSES TO WHICH THE SUNDERLAND CORPORATION HAS GRANTED A SUBSIDY OF £150 PER HOUSE.

remarkable or novel features, but I put them forward as examples of what are actually being erected and for which there is a ready sale.

The first type is the five-roomed two-storey terrace house, designed to be erected on sites in streets which have already been laid out and in which the paving has already been completed. The ground floor contains entrance hall, parlour, living room and kitchen-scully; and the first floor three bedrooms, bathroom and water closet. The design, as will be seen, is of the "square-box" type without an outshoot, as being the most economical to build. Bay windows are provided back and front, as they greatly enlarge the apparent area of the living rooms and add to the amenities of the home. I have found that very few purchasers require a coal-fire range in the living room; they all, almost without exception, ask for a gas cooker in the scullery. Thus the back living room is fitted with an ordinary mantel and grate, and becomes in the true sense a living room, all cooking being done in the scullery. In regard to the stairs, the only point I would mention is that winders are avoided and a small landing and return flight are provided. Winders are dangerous and very difficult to lay a stair carpet or linoleum on, and a straight stair without a landing is also dangerous. These houses are almost invariably lighted by electricity. The type has proved exceedingly popular, and they have readily sold at £500 each, complete with decorations and electric light fittings, the builder in addition obtaining the subsidy of £150. These prices include street formation and paving charges, but not land, which in Sunderland is usually sold subject to an annual ground rent.

I hold no brief, however, for the terrace type of small houses, which so often before the war produced long rows of monotonous front and back streets. The 1919 and 1920 campaign did bring prominently before the public the great advantage of modern lay-outs, the abolition of back streets and "backyards," the increase of the frontage per house, and the building of houses in pairs or blocks of four. The five-roomed "square-box" type which I have described I look upon as a temporary expedient to quickly overtake the lack of housing accommodation by utilising existing lay-outs and paving. Where opportunity occurs I most strongly advocate increasing the sites in frontage and doing away with back streets, as in the case I illustrate, in which the sites are 36 feet in frontage and the houses of the five-roomed type are erected in pairs. These houses are proving

exceedingly popular, and particularly so as the site is sufficient to provide quite a good allotment garden.

I also show another lay-out and plans for 40 five-roomed houses of the bungalow type. These, I am told, were all sold before the farmer was off the site.

I also illustrate a type of four-roomed one-storey cottage, which it is hoped will meet a want. The streets are already laid out, and to reduce the number of houses per acre to modern standards the cottages are grouped in blocks of four and five. To these particular cottages the Sunderland Corporation have granted a lump sum subsidy of £100 per cottage.

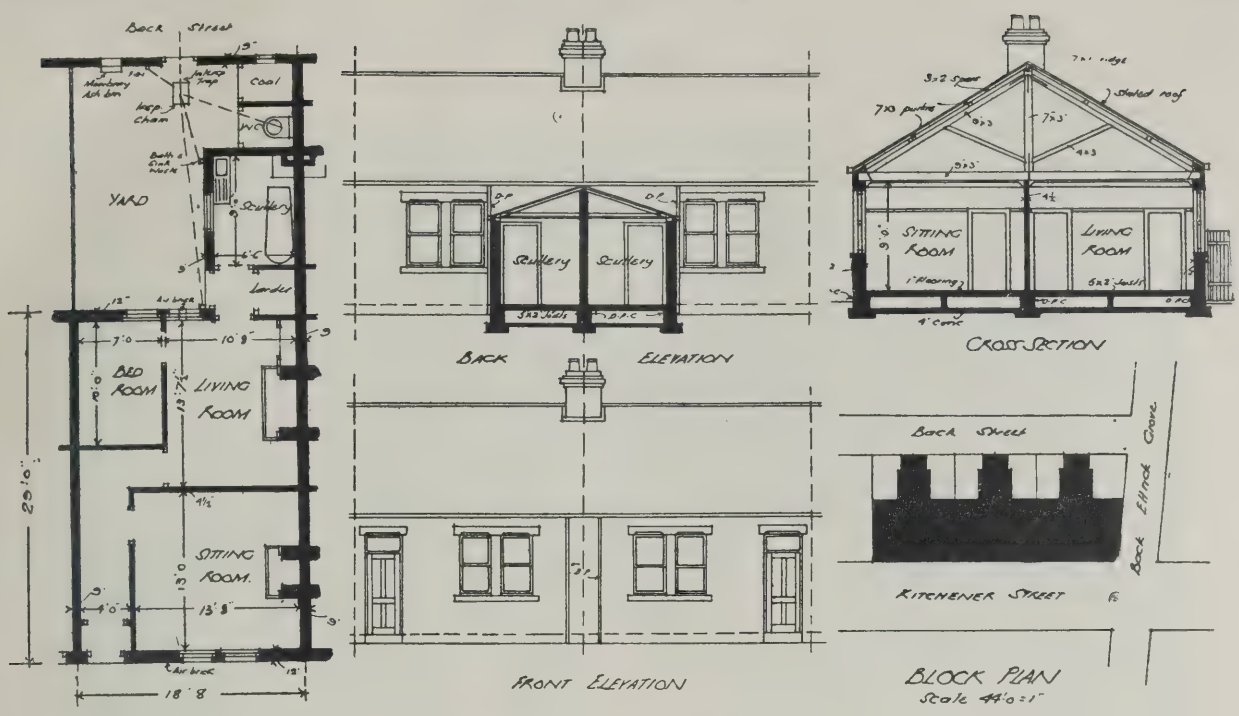
The next type illustrated is a scheme for thirty four-roomed two-storey houses on an estate for which plans were approved before the war showing streets 30 feet wide. The estate at the time hung fire and in the meanwhile the Local Authority adopted new Bye-Laws requiring streets to be 36 feet wide. They now require the streets in the scheme to be of the width prescribed by their new Bye-Laws, and consequently the promoters have for the time being abandoned the scheme. This is an excellent example of the way in which existing Bye-Laws in some cases hinder housing; and although a procedure is laid down in the Act for relief from these difficulties, my experience, speaking generally, has been that promoters of housing by private enterprise are always chary of anything which appears to be in the nature of litigation, and they prefer to abandon a scheme rather than enter into any appearance of opposition to a local authority.

I also show types of three-roomed one-storey cottages which have been approved for subsidy under the Act. They are of pre-war type and possess no special merit unless it be that they can be constructed rapidly and economically.

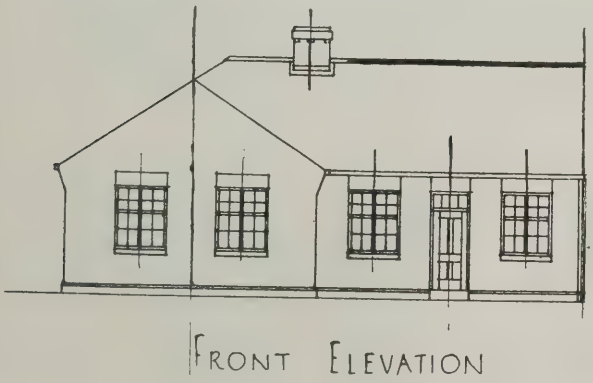
For construction I am of opinion that in this district 11 in. hollow brick walls and slated roofs cannot be improved upon for economical, efficient and durable construction. Internal partitions, provided they do not carry weight, are, I think, best made of breeze concrete slabs, as there is no possibility of their harbouring vermin as do lath and plaster partitions. For other materials and sanitation, speaking generally, I do not advocate any reduction from the usual Bye-Law standards.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS.

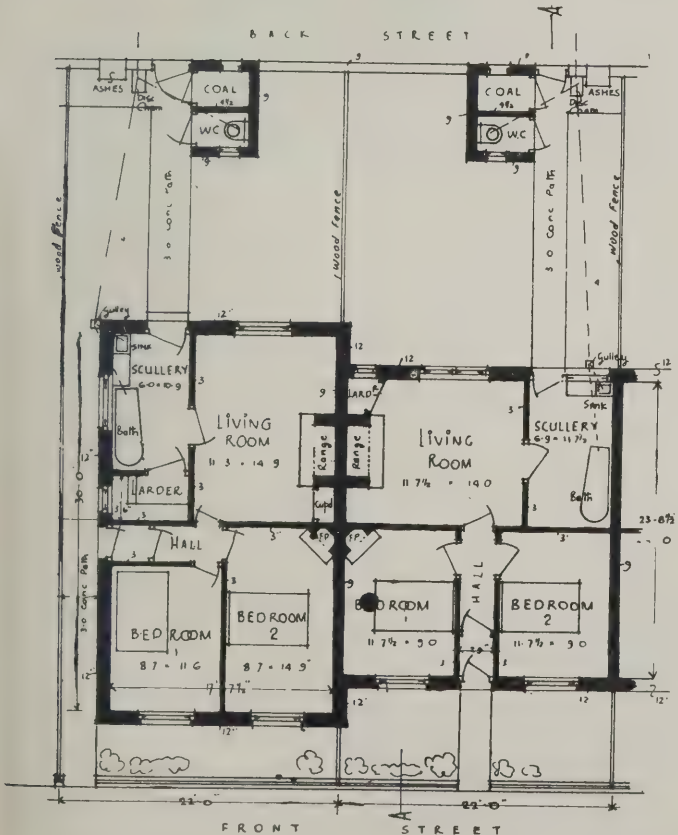
I should just like to put forward a few points in conclusion. I am of opinion that, given encouragement by the local



COTTAGES TO WHICH THE SUNDERLAND CORPORATION HAVE GRANTED A SUBSIDY OF £75 PER COTTAGE.



FRONT ELEVATION



PROPOSED COTTAGES, PALLION, CORPORATION SUBSIDY £100 EACH.

authorities, private enterprise can and will entirely solve the housing problem. If, however, local authorities primarily utilise the Act to promote their own schemes, then private enterprise is greatly hampered, as the local authorities have the ratepayer to fall back upon in the event of their schemes showing a loss. The speculative builder, on the other hand, has not usually a large capital, and he makes up for his lack of capital by his energy, by knowing how to build economically and how to cater for the public demand. In pre-war days he was often a man with two or three sons, each trained to a particular trade, and the building of houses became a family affair. House building was not the concern of the large contractor, although he often kept a few houses going as a "hospital," so as to turn his employees on to them when his general building contracts were slack. It is very desirable, I think, to get back as soon as possible to these pre-war conditions and agencies for house building. Such a condition of things would soon tend to reduce the shortage of bricklayers and plasterers, as the more individual firms of builders there are the more apprentices will be trained, and there is no better school for the training of apprentices than the building of small houses.

I know some people say the Act has failed and that private enterprise has failed because provision is not being made for the housing or the rehousing of the dwellers in the slums. Private enterprise as generally understood has never catered for the slum dwellers, and in my opinion it never will. This question of the housing of the slum dweller is, I consider, one of the most, if not the most, urgent social problems of the day.

I notice that in certain quarters there is a disposition to ask that all "luxury" building should be curtailed until the shortage of houses is satisfied. Whilst crediting people who ask for this step with the best intentions, I am afraid that they lack knowledge of the organisation of the building trade. Similar steps were taken in 1920, with the most disastrous results so far as house building was concerned.

The question of the number of houses to be erected to the acre requires consideration. Some local authorities, I believe, have intimated that they will not approve schemes with a greater density than twelve houses per acre. I think a hard and fast rule of this description is to be regretted, as it will largely rule out the building up of gaps in existing streets and terraces. In cases where the paving and sewerage is already done I think it is entirely to the advantage of the local authority to encourage the building up of the vacant sites, as against the subsidy they grant they receive the produce of the rate on the house, and the only additional service they have to perform is the removal of the refuse from the house.

In conclusion, I hold no brief for the principle of a subsidy which the Act of 1923 embodies, but it seems that until the restriction of rents is removed there will have to be a subsidy of some sort. The converse, of course, holds good, because I consider that so soon as the house shortage is made good the rent question will solve itself.

Housing.



SHOP: DUCANE ROAD. W. E. RILEY, Architect.

North of England.

† The Ministry of Health has granted the application of the Darlington Corporation for permission to borrow £11,250 for the purpose of paying the first instalment of the housing subsidy in respect to 150 houses.

† The Dewsbury authorities have passed the plans submitted by Mr. J. W. Clegg, Mr. A. Miller and Mr. J. E. Wilson for houses on the Wakefield Road site; three houses in Long-causeway, Thornhill; four houses in Commons Road; houses on the Wakefield Road site for Mrs. Atkinson and Messrs. Kemp & Ledgard, ten houses for Ingham's Thornhill Collieries, Ltd.; ten houses in Ouzelwell Lane, Thornhill, Lees, three houses off Slaithwaite Road, and houses for Mrs. Wainwright, Mr. J. W. Hampshire and Mr. L. Tillotson, on the Wakefield Road site.

A bungalow is to be built in Pedmore Road, Woodside, Dudley, a house in Park Road, another house in Arch Hill Street, Nether-ton, and a house in Stourbridge Road.

The South Shields Rural District Council have approved of the following plans submitted: A pair of semi-detached houses in St. Mary's Terrace, East Boldon. Messrs. T. A. Page & Son, architects, submitted plans for a bungalow in St. John's Terrace, and in Beckenham Avenue, East Boldon. Mr. F. E. Coates, architect, will be building 36 houses.

A local builder in Mexborough has secured the plot of ground recently used for allotment purposes in Adwick Road, near the Montague Hospital. It is his intention to erect about 100 houses on this site.

The building operations at Morecombe are fairly active, 14 houses are to be erected just off South Road.

The Northallerton Rural District Council propose to submit to the Ministry of Health a scheme for the erection of 70 houses, the erection of which will be supported by subsidy grants. The houses will be built on the south side of Racecourse Lane.

An application has been received by the Houghton-le-Spring Rural District Council from the Lambton and Hetton Collieries, Ltd., for the Housing subsidy in respect to 39 houses which the company propose to erect at Fence Houses.

The York Town Council passed the following housing plans: two in Lime Avenue, five in Cameron Grove, and one in Moor-gate.

Hutton's Lane, Liverpool, will be the seat of a considerable house building activity, the Corporation having passed the plans for 272 houses in the Lane; in addition to this the same authority approved of the plans of 189 other houses in different parts of the city.

The Brompton Rural District Council has passed the plans for four semi-detached bungalows at Faugh.

The Rural District Council of Chipping Sodbury have passed to date 130 plans for dwellings under the subsidy scheme.

Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., the well-known constructional steel engineers, submitted a scheme for the erection of 50 houses at Bowburn to the Durham Rural District Council, who have notified their approval to Y. W. T. Richardson, architect, of Stockton-on-Tees.

Ten houses are to be built in Woodville Road and a like number in Bank Street, Brierfield.

Messrs. Spedding, Richard and Lackie submitted 19 plans for houses to the Ashington Urban District Council, all these have been passed.

The Urban District Council of Oswaldtwistle have passed the plans for eight houses in Alice Street and six houses in Duke Street.

A house is to be erected for the Airedale Collieries, Ltd., at Townville, Pontefract. The Conservative Club are building a house in Southgate; two houses are to be built in Spital, Hardwick Lane; and a single house in Colonel's Walk, Pontefract.

Sanction has been received by the Manchester authorities to borrow half a million sterling for the purpose of subsidising the building of 2,000 houses.

The Housing Committee have an immediate programme for the erection of 1,700 houses.

The Oldham Town Council approved of the plans for twelve houses, two in Sheepfoot Lane, Hollins Green, and ten in Manley Road.

Tenders have been invited for the erection of 50 houses, etc., at Scarborough (see our Contracts Open page).

Tenders have been invited for the erection of 10 houses at Bradford (see our Contracts Open page).

Tenders have been invited for the erection of 26 houses at Formby.

At a recent meeting of the Whitley and Monkseaton Urban District Council the plans for 19 houses were

At Warrington the Corporation passed the plans for 11 houses in Norris Street, 16 houses in Reynolds and Longdin Streets, a further four houses in Reynolds Street, and six houses in Orford Road.

In various parts of Barnsley 40 houses are to be erected, the Town Council having approved of the respective plans.

South and West of England.

Abbotsham Road, Bideford, is to have 28 additional houses. The Urban District Council have passed the plans.

The Southend-on-Sea Town Council passed the plans for 49 houses in various parts of the town.



Preserving timber with SOLIGNUM at Bush House, Kingsway

All the wooden floor joists, battens, bearers, etc.,
used in the new Bush Building, Kingsway, are being
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This is the best possible insurance against dry rot and decay



205 BOROUGH HIGH STREET, S.E.1

Building operations will be started shortly by the Windsor Town Council in connection with the 32 houses at Clewer, which the Council propose to erect. The successful tender submitted by Messrs. Winters has been approved by the Ministry of Health.

Messrs. Priestman Collieries, Ltd., recently submitted a scheme for the erection of 450 houses at Whickham to the Urban District Council. This authority has now passed all the plans for the erection of the dwellings.

Thirty-four houses, the plans for which were submitted to the Worthing Highways and Works Committee, and passed by this authority, are to be erected in different parts of the town.

Plans for a hundred houses at Welwyn Garden City were passed at a recent meeting of the Welwyn Rural District Council. These houses are to be erected on sites already selected. A new housing scheme has been prepared for Welwyn by Mr. H. G. Cherry, architect, who attended the above-mentioned meeting and was instructed to prepare plans for between 70 and 80 houses, the majority of which are to contain three bedrooms. The Welwyn Garden City Company propose to erect agricultural labourers' cottages at Digswell.

The local authorities have passed all the necessary plans in connection with houses in Ashurst Road, six houses in Bramber Road, and seven houses in Pollard Road, Friern Barnet.

Two houses in Gerrard Road, ten houses in the Kingsway east of Clifford Avenue, two houses in Shalstone Road; a further five houses in the Kingsway, and a house in Derby Road, Barnes, are to be built shortly, the local authorities having passed the plans.

Midlands.

The Worksop Urban Council passed the plans for 28 houses submitted by the Shirebrook Colliery Company, and also plans for sixteen houses to be erected in Gateford Road, Worksop.

Sixteen houses are to be erected in Union Footfields, Wisbech.

Mr. Shepherd submitted to the Stourport Town Council plans for 13 houses in Kidderminster Road, and Warwick Street. The authorities have notified to him their approval of the plans, and we understand building operations will be started forthwith.

The 1923 Housing Act has proved very attractive to the townspeople of Nottingham, who have either completed or have in progress of erection 400 houses, the cost of which will benefit directly from the provisions of the Act.

Three houses are to be built for Mr. A. Day at Foleshill. A house is to be built in Wetherill Road, three in Loring Road, a bungalow in Oakleigh Road North.

Twenty-nine plans for houses have been passed by the Arnold Urban District Council.

The King's Lynn Town Council passed the plans for the erection of 14 houses in Luke Road.

Four bungalows and 16 houses are to be erected at Old Sodbury; at Felton 12 bungalows and 25 houses will be built shortly; 12 bungalows are to be started at Westerleigh. There is no longer any doubt that the bungalow type of house is greatly on the increase in the public favour. One floor and no stairs are undoubtedly great attractions: all the conveniences of a flat without any of the inconveniences and with many additional charms, such as a garden and privacy. Last week we published a number of very well-thought-out plans for such dwellings in our New Year's Special Number, for which applications for copies arrive with every post.

Eight houses are to be erected for Mr. W. Sawyer at Burston.

Further housing developments are taking place at Cannock. A scheme for the erection at Hilton, near Wolverhampton, of 50 houses has been approved. At Huntington 50 houses are to be erected in pairs at a cost of £720 each pair. In both these districts extensive colliery operations are developing and these housing schemes are part of a big enterprise which will eventually supply 500 dwellings in the districts.

Wales.

Six flats are to be built in Brynycabanau Road, Wrexham. The Town Council also passed the plans for six houses in Rivulet Road and three in Derby Road.

Over 100 plans for bungalows and maisonettes have been submitted to and been approved by the Port Talbot Town Council during the present year.

Scotland.

The Dean of Guild Court, Edinburgh, passed the plans for seven villas in Colinton Road, a double villa in Jeffrey Avenue, Blackhall, and two cottages at Meadowplace Road, Corstorphine.

The County of Renfrew Second or Lower District have issued a notice which reads as follows:—"The District Committee is prepared to assist the provision by private enterprise of houses within the district by a subsidy of £100 per house." Particulars can be obtained from J. C. Fraser, District Clerk, County Buildings, Paisley.

Metropolitan Water Board.

Mr. H. S. Scarr has joined the Board as representative for the Metropolitan Borough Council of Greenwich in place of Mr. B. J. Lemmon, resigned, Mr. H. P. Griffiths is to represent Shoreditch in the place of Mr. J. J. Varnals. On February 23, 1923, the Board authorised the construction of a first instalment of rapid filters at Kempton. The lowest tender received was from Messrs. Paterson Engineering Co., Ltd., and subject to a condition being embodied in the contract the Board has been recommended to accept this firm's tender.

At the same February meeting of last year the Board authorised the provision of a first instalment of machinery at Kempton for pumping filtered water together with that necessary for providing washed water and air for cleansing the primary filters. The tenders from thirteen firms received range in value between £77,675-£161,400. The engineer's estimate was given at £130,000.

After an exhaustive examination the second lowest tender submitted by Messrs. Worthington-Simpson, Ltd., of £94,750 has been recommended for acceptance.

In the report of the General Purposes Committee we note that there is a possibility of the land owned by the Board situated in The Avenue, St. Margarets-on-Thames, being offered for sale at a public auction, with a suitable reserve price; the area is about 3 roods 17 poles, with a frontage to the avenue of 211 feet and an average depth of 177 feet.

Diary.

We have received from Mr. B. T. King, C.I.M.E., 146A Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, a very neat pocket diary. The author has seen fit to allot a page for each day's notes and this, we feel, will add considerably to the usefulness of the booklet. So frequently the space is limited to a few lines with the result that writers overlap and the purpose of the diary is nullified.

Trade Notes.

The well-known advertising agency of Messrs. Geo. Street & Co., Ltd., of 30 Cornhill, announce their removal after eighty years to more commodious premises at 6 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.4, where they will occupy five floors.

The use of white Osram gasfilled lamps for lighting main streets, which was inaugurated by the Metropolitan Borough of St. Marylebone just before Christmas, has now been extended to the area of the Hampstead Borough Council.

This enterprising borough has recently ordered, though Messrs. William White & Co., 48-60 watt white Osram gasfilled lamps and 48-100 watt white Osram gasfilled lamps, which will be used in the ordinary converted gas standards for street lighting.

The snow-white glareless light of the white Osram is keenly appreciated by the travellers on fast moving vehicles, who, now they are relieved of all risk of dazzle, can drive with confidence in the most crowded thoroughfares.

Mr. Samson Clark, of East Molesey, chairman of Samson Clark & Co., Ltd., the advertising service agents of Mortimer Street, W., and former Parliamentary candidate for the Chertsey Division of Surrey, asks us to state that he is not in any way connected with Mr. Samson Clark, of 63 Kent House Road, Sydenham, S.E., against whom a Receiving Order in Bankruptcy was gazetted last Saturday.

A Bedworth factory building in Thomas Street is to be converted into a billiard hall; the plans have been passed by the Foleshill Rural District Council.

In Belfast the house building activity is on the increase. The Corporation at their last meeting approved of the 89 plans recommended to them for erection in various parts of the city.

The Midland Bank propose to erect new premises in Nottingham Road, Daybrook.

The Borough of Hampstead have issued an invitation to contractors for tenders for one year for works, materials or services.

Messrs. Sir William Arrol & Co., engineers and contractors, have proved successful with their tender for the Avonmouth Dock extension at Bristol. The price submitted by them was £554,000.

Messrs. Jenson and Nicholson, Ltd., have sent us an amusing calendar; each month we shall be entertained by one of Heath Robinson's skits on the building profession. We are inclined to think Messrs. Jenson and Nicholson, Ltd., have struck a happy note by substituting these drawings in the place of the usual rather uninteresting specimens of manufacture which so often fill these spaces on calendars sent out by commercial firms.



GREAT resources in their Middlesbrough and London constructional shops place Dorman, Long and Company in an exceptional position to undertake any type of steel frame building for home or export.

The steelwork is British Manufacture throughout. Production is controlled from the raw material—coal and iron ore—up to the finished steel and every requirement can be met.

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Steel frame buildings and bridges: steel pipe-lines and tanks.

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General News.

North of England.

Improvements costing £13,600 are to be carried out with the approval of the Preston Town Council at the Chestnuts Sanatorium for Consumptives.

For some time past the Southport Corporation have been considering the question of remodelling their baths on the promenade. A scheme has been prepared and costs have been considered with the result that a calculated estimate of £30,000 is now before the Corporation.

A scheme for the erection of an institute at Greenside, Ryton, Durham, was approved at the last meeting of the Ryton Urban District Council.

A new laundry is to be erected by the Blackpool Corporation Baths Committee on a site in Rigby Road.

The Newcastle-on-Tyne Watch Committee have recommended the invitation of competitive designs for the police and fire brigade station which the City Council propose to erect on the Marlborough Crescent Market site at a cost of £125,000.

A new school is under consideration for Hessele; the County Council are reviewing the question of the most suitable site for the new building.

A scheme for the erection of a new girls' school in Wood Street, Doncaster, and also for the acquisition of a site in the same street for an infants' school, is to be placed before the Board of Education. Quite a number of additions to various school buildings in the town are also to be submitted to the Board.

The Manchester City architect will supply specifications in respect to the invitation for tenders for a new Lancashire boiler, 20 feet by 8 feet, to work at 100 lb. pressure.

Firth Park secondary school, Sheffield, is to be extended. Plans and estimates are to be submitted to the Board of Education.

A site has been purchased by the Education Committee of Royton and Crompton for the erection of a new central school.

The Burnley Building Society is erecting a new branch office at Duke Bar. Some property in the centre of Accrington has been purchased and structural alterations are now in full swing.

The foundation stone for the Whitby War Memorial was laid last week by the Marchioness of Normanby, of Mulgrave Castle. The memorial takes the form of a cottage hospital, which it is estimated will require £10,000 to complete.

The West Riding Education Committee propose to erect a much larger school in Eglington than was originally contemplated. The former scheme would have only accommodated 500 pupils, whereas the new plans will find room for just double that number.

A shelter costing £7,000 is to be erected on the South side of the Victoria Pier, Douglas, Isle of Man.

The Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Welfare Committee hope to start building in the early spring a convalescent home at Blackpool, the cost of which it is estimated amounts to between £70,000 and £80,000.

The Leeds "Mercury" of January 24 inst. gave a very interesting, if short report of the proceedings which took place at a meeting of property owners, at which Mr. Enoch Hill, of Halifax, spoke of the work done by house builders and the services these builders had performed. He was interrupted by a shouted remark from one of his audience, the purport of which was "Break up the combinations." Mr. Hill replied, so the report reads, as follows: "I am all in favour of breaking 'rings' of every kind, but the greatest 'ring' in the country to-day is the monopoly of labour."

The plans prepared by Messrs. Marshall and Tweedy, architects, for the extensions and alterations of the business premises of Messrs. R. Blacklock, Station Road, Ashington, have been approved by the local authorities.

Alterations and improvements involving an expenditure of £2,000 are to be undertaken at St. George's Presbyterian Church, Blackburn.

South and West of England.

A new parish church at Highbridge, Somerset, is being contemplated by the locality and donations towards the estimated cost of £24,000 are being vigorously canvassed.

On a site facing the Crab and Lobster Hotel in Grove Road, Ventnor, it is proposed to erect a cinema capable of holding 400 people.

It has been announced that the railway stations of the South Eastern and Brighton Railways at Victoria are to be merged into one big station with every facility for passengers. The long wall which has hitherto divided the two stations is to be removed. The new station will have 18 platforms. Extensive structural changes mainly on the South Eastern side are to be

undertaken which will remodel the whole into a modern up-to-date complete unit.

The general secretary of the National Federation of Building Operatives is reported in the "Daily Telegraph" of January 10 to have said that "every member of the Federation welcomed Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's pronouncement; but they would welcome it with even greater enthusiasm if they were assured it would be a definite forward and persistent policy that would produce houses, and not a policy that would slacken off in a few months. Everyone knew there were building rings." Everyone knows that the National Federation of Building operatives and all other Federations and Trade Unions have definite policies which fundamentally aim at the improvement of the conditions and wages of employees. Why should Labour be permitted to organise and combine and a like privilege be denied to builders and material manufacturers? The demands of Labour in recent years drove manufacturers into combination with each other. Competitive relationships were absolutely impossible and so these rings or combines came into existence. The cessation of competition amongst manufacturers resulted in a considerable loss of revenue to the technical Press, but we are bound to admit that under the existing conditions it was the only thing manufacturers could do.

The work now in progress on the extension or left wing site of the London County Hall as seen from the opposite bank of the river is in connection with the raft foundations.

More than half the total cost of the new Erith Hospital has been subscribed; the new building is in the course of erection and is situated in Park Crescent.

The new Town Hall of Gillingham is not to cost more than £60,000. The accommodation needed includes a large hall, having a seating capacity for 1,700, and two minor halls, each holding 600 and 300 seats respectively. The president of the Royal Institute of British Architects has appointed Mr. H. V. Lancaster, F.R.I.B.A., to act as assessor in an architectural competition which has been arranged for this building. Mr. Lancaster has had considerable experience in this special type of architecture, and we are sure that his drawing up of the conditions and award will be in every way satisfactory to all parties.

The Croydon Education Committee have under their consideration the plans for a new elementary school in the East Ward.

The King's Road, Chelsea, has supplied the site for the new Prince's Ice Rink Company. Its area is given at 60,000 ft. Plans have been prepared which include a winter garden restaurant and club. The cost of the building is estimated to amount to £50,000.

Scotland.

The Glasgow Cross improvements are progressing favourably. The work in connection with the under-pinning of the ancient steeple is nearing completion.

Building operations on the new Cross railway station are very active. Further tenders were accepted recently amounting to £10,873.

We read in a contemporary journal that the youth of Scotland is emigrating to the United States of America and Canada in a very alarming degree and that the future outlook for Scotland is causing considerable anxiety. We cannot wholly wonder that youth should seek brighter surroundings and better opportunities for development and enterprise. In a report, the Dundee chief sanitary inspector stated that the net increase of houses during the past year was only seven. The Corporation schemes provided 16 additional houses and private enterprise 56 separate houses as against 25 of the previous year. Emigration, the report continues, might ease the situation somewhat this summer but the inspector would not like it to be the excuse for a pause in building operations. Whilst lamenting the loss of the youth of the country, on the one hand, it would seem that emigration is in some quarters viewed as the possible saviour of overcrowded areas.

Wales.

The Ministry of Health has asked for further particulars respecting the scheme for the erection of an isolation hospital at Hill House, Sketty. The Swansea Corporation had requested the Ministry for sanction to borrow £80,000 for the scheme.

The Urban District Council of Penmaenmawr very much desire to have a new railway station and it is their intention to strongly urge the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company to erect such a building with all the most modern accessories.

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"Is it Practical?"

The Letting of Office and other Accommodation.

The following resolution was passed and ordered to be published in the R.I.B.A. Journal:—

The Council view with disapproval the exhibition by architects of boards upon which are displayed notices that offices or like accommodation are to be let and that applications to the architects are invited. This Resolution does not preclude the architect of a building at the request of his client from exhibiting a board inviting prospective tenants to inspect the plans at his offices, provided that the architect receive no commission for lettings resulting, nor does it apply to the letting or selling of land.

We give a recommendation issued by the R.I.B.A. which states that that body looks with disapproval on notices giving an architect's name when offices are to be let, but raising no objection to notices which state that plans can be seen at an architect's office or to notices respecting the sale of sites. This seems to us to be a fine and unnecessary restriction. A great many architects are too busy to be inclined to give up time to dealing with the letting of buildings or the sale of sites, but when they have time and inclination we do not see that any dignity is lost by dealing with what is a pure matter of business or in accepting a proper fee for services rendered. In the case of a building site an architect is far more likely to be in a position to be of use to a prospective purchaser than an agent is, for he is able to give the purchaser an idea of the manner in which it can be developed and the cost of such development, which an agent can only deal with second hand or by the introduction of an architect. It seems to us better to leave it to every individual to decide what work he can do and what work it suits him to do. Whatever he does should be done honestly and efficiently, and fortunately it is easy to decide what is honest and what is questionable.

Architecture is an art; it is also described as a profession; but it is fundamentally an occupation with a very definite business and commercial side. Many architects are bad business men, and if so are well advised to relegate purely business matters as far as possible to others; but when an architect is a good business man it is right and proper that he should not restrict his activities.

Putting the matter in another way, there can be little doubt that if every architect were able to act as an agent a large volume of work would be carried out by architects which now falls into other hands. Naturally, if an architect spends much of his time in dealing with such outside business matters he would have less time to give to purely artistic ones, but it seems to be for the common good that a man should follow his natural bent. We believe the R.I.B.A. should be broad enough to include all those who design architectural work and not only those who act in an advisory capacity in connection with it. A man's ability would not be less if in addition to designing a building he was, through a business arrangement he had made, able to contract to erect it for a given sum; he would in this way have become a modern master builder. We believe that there is room for the amalgamation of architect and

builder in order to cope efficiently with the huge volume of smaller work for which few architects are employed. This might be effected by the partnership of young architects and builders, each contributing capital and skill to the common fund. Such combinations would be able to give the average man what he wants, which is a small, well designed and planned house built for a lump sum. The fact that such a sum included payment for skilled direction instead of separate fees for supervising and designing would not alter results. It is on these lines that some of the construction companies of the United States work, and the principle seems to us to be sound. It would lead not to the elimination of architects but their more frequent employment in a greater number of capacities, and would be in accordance with the practice of engineers whose calling embraces not only advisory but the executive branches, and whose members lose no status by dealing with matters in an executive as well as advisory capacity.

The governing body of the R.I.B.A. sometimes seems to us to be too much concerned with details and too little with broader considerations.

Its function should be to encourage and promote the production of good buildings rather than to regulate little matters of the methods with which its individual members choose to act.

Take the question of advertisement, of which we hear so much. It seems to us unnecessary to try to hinder an architect from putting his name on a hoarding, or, as is the case in America, advertising in a paper. If it suits a man to do so we think he should be at liberty to act as he thinks best, and the probability is that few would avail themselves of their freedom from the trammels of an exact etiquette. It is quite likely that if a man did advertise in either of the ways we have mentioned, it would be regarded by the public as a sign of his want of work, and so do him more harm than good.

The only things we would have barred are those which are obviously objectionable, undercutting one another in fees, endeavouring to obtain work given to another architect, or a failure in the honesty and uprightness of his dealings with his clients' interests. All of these would be regarded as dishonest and objectionable by the average man for reasons which are patent to everyone.

We do not want architects to be regarded as a privileged class or caste governed by an intricate etiquette, but as a useful and necessary means for giving the public what it wants, and the more thoroughly this is realised by ourselves and the public the greater will become our scope.

There is great room for the activities of the R.I.B.A., which should long ago have taken up the housing question and promoted a scheme of its own, placing it at the disposal of the Government, instead of offering its services in aiding the carrying out of schemes which

were abortive and financially unsound. There is room for its activities in radically overhauling the whole system of competitions and eliminating well-known abuses.

It is by such action rather than the investigation and amendment of little matters of etiquette which are supremely unimportant that the R.I.B.A. can secure real and widespread influence.

The two matters we have mentioned are more

material to the well-being of the profession than are any questions of unification or registration which have excited a quite undue amount of excitement and controversy in the past. The influence of the R.I.B.A. does not depend on its size, but on the efficiency of its members and on the manner in which it deals with the live issues of the day, and, above all, on its insistence on even-handed justice to all.

Our Illustrations.

CHURCH AT MUSTAIL, SWITZERLAND. From a photograph by CHR. MEISSER.

OAK SCREEN, ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. Measured drawing by CLIFFORD S. STRANGE.

STUDY IN CLASSICAL ELEMENTS. By A. B. GRAYSON.

Notes and Comments.

King Coal.

The Coal Owners' Association have sent us pamphlets containing facts and figures which completely dispose of the case raised by the miners for a revision of their rates which would incidentally increase the cost of coal to the consumer by 3s. a ton. The miners, like the operatives in the building trade, are making matters very much more difficult by pressing for the adoption of a still shorter day, which operates more disadvantageously in their industry than it does in building. For the same overhead charges for pumping and winding have to be added to a lower output which means an increase in the selling cost of coal, whereas an increased output means greater profits, the greater part of which would by agreement go to the colliers and not to the owners. It is conclusively demonstrated in the pamphlet sent out that any scheme of nationalisation would almost inevitably mean lower output and increased cost, while it is also shown that such amalgamation and pooling of interests as would lead to economy and efficiency are being carried out naturally and automatically. It is to be hoped that facts and figures will be brought home to the public, for if the miners know that public feeling is opposed to their claims, it will have a moderating effect, and will probably avert a stoppage, the effect of which would be a national calamity.

Housing.

The new Minister of Health has met the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives in a private conference, but has very wisely stated that he was not in a position to announce his housing programme. A resolution was passed unanimously at the close of the conference that the meeting pledged itself to give its hearty support to the Government Housing Programme. It is understood that the operatives are still opposed to any form of dilution, which they think will do harm instead of good. We may expect to hear a good deal of denunciation of rings and combines, but we do not expect that any attempt will be made to investigate the most powerful and dangerous combine of all—that formed by labour to restrict output and so keep up prices. Until the working classes through their Unions—which have for many years done unmitigated harm—show that they possess some regard for the common good, we shall go from bad to worse. Already the new Minister has asked the Wandsworth Council to postpone the building of a Library in order to set labour free for housing, a request which only merits a very curt refusal. The tyranny of unreasonable Labour is infinitely more dangerous than any tyranny which we have suffered from in the past, so should be dealt with drastically in the interests of Labour itself.

Two Useful Measures.

There are two directions in which we should welcome Governmental action, and possibly among more questionable changes we may get them from the present Administration. One is the compulsory application of the Housing

and Town Planning Act to the whole country, a measure which is very urgently needed if England is to preserve any beauty at all; and the other the regulation of displayed advertisements and shop signs by taxation, or other means. Both of these measures would be welcome to all of us, and neither would mean the infliction of hardships on any class or interest. They cannot be described as revolutionary or burning questions, and for that reason will perhaps be side-tracked by earnest reformers. They are the sort of proposals which would be dealt with under a full system of proportional representation, which by eliminating party majorities would force Parliament to deal with what was not objected to by any, instead of the party issues which depend on the securing of a temporary majority which does not correspond with the real views of the electorate.

The Birmingham Civic Society.

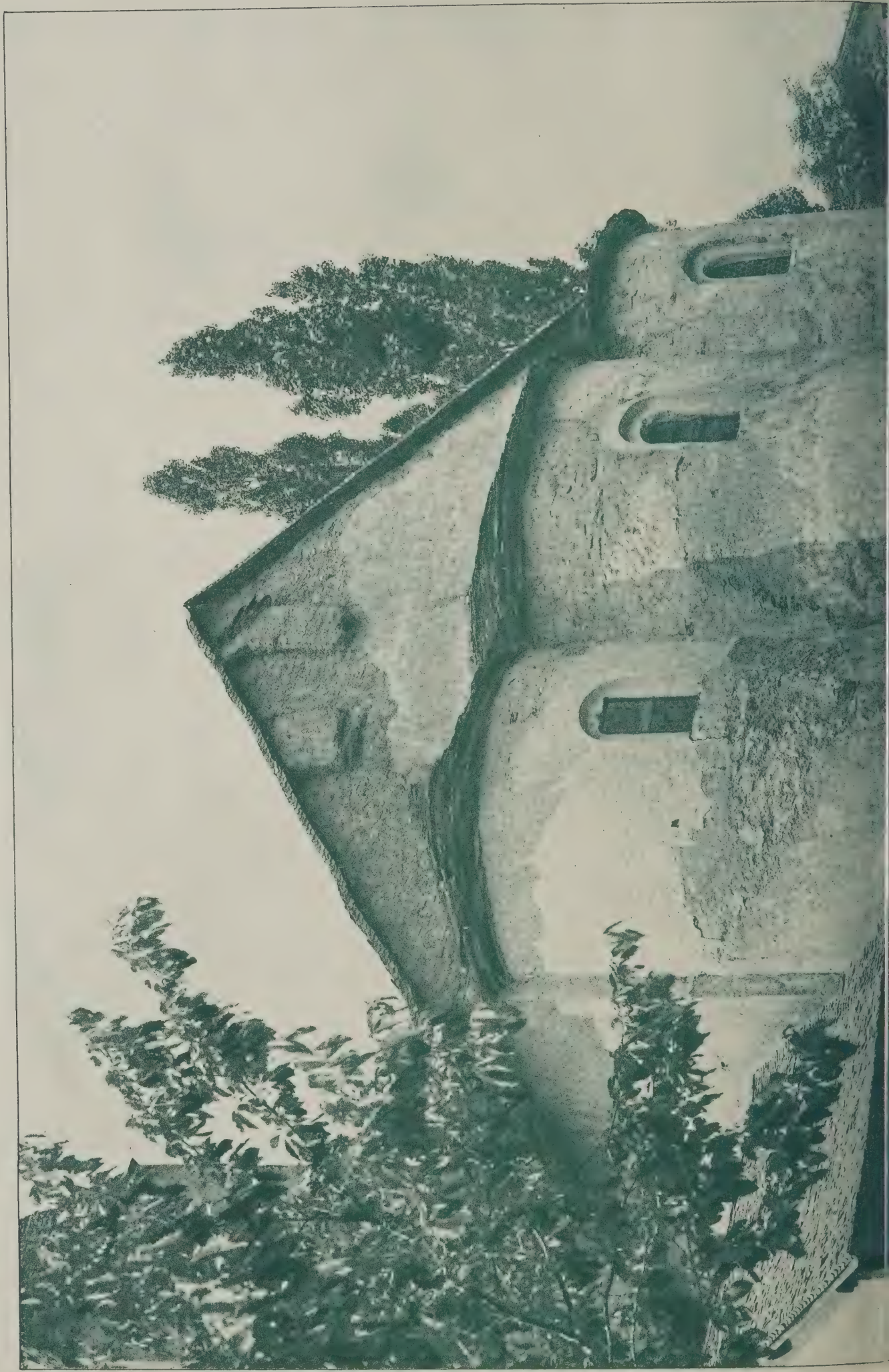
The Birmingham Civic Society have been engaged in a public endeavour to secure the better design of the telephone boxes erected by the Post Office authorities in the borough. The alternative design, which we have seen, has much to recommend it, but we are not surprised that the Civic Society has found itself up against a blank wall. Our Departments revel in their sacrosanct autocracy and are most difficult to deal with. The telephone service has not improved since it has passed out of private hands, and both in its charges and efficiency does not compare favourably with similar institutions in other countries. When a man is converted from a servant of a private company to an official in a Department he often assumes a disregard for the convenience and comfort of those with whom he has to deal, which is irritating and annoying. The Post Office itself is nothing like as efficient as it was in pre-war days, while the abolition of the Sunday delivery is often a great inconvenience to those who are awaiting urgent news. We have often felt that it would have been better to economise by reducing the number of deliveries on week days and retaining one on Sunday morning. The Post Office as a whole has gained a reputation for efficiency partly because we have no standard with which to measure its achievements. Had it even been in private hands it might possibly have been very much better organised than it has been as a public service. The fact seems to be that the average Englishman does not make a good official, and the less he is employed in such a capacity the more comfortable life is.

"Thinking in Millions."

Mr. Wheatley, the new Minister of Health, says that with regard to housing we should think in millions and not in the pettifogging manner of his predecessors. The great abysses of space revealed by astronomical science would no doubt have an attraction for Mr. Wheatley, who might after a suitable period of time given to the contemplation of great sizes, vast spaces and inconceivable velocities, feel disposed to come back to the contemplation of things as

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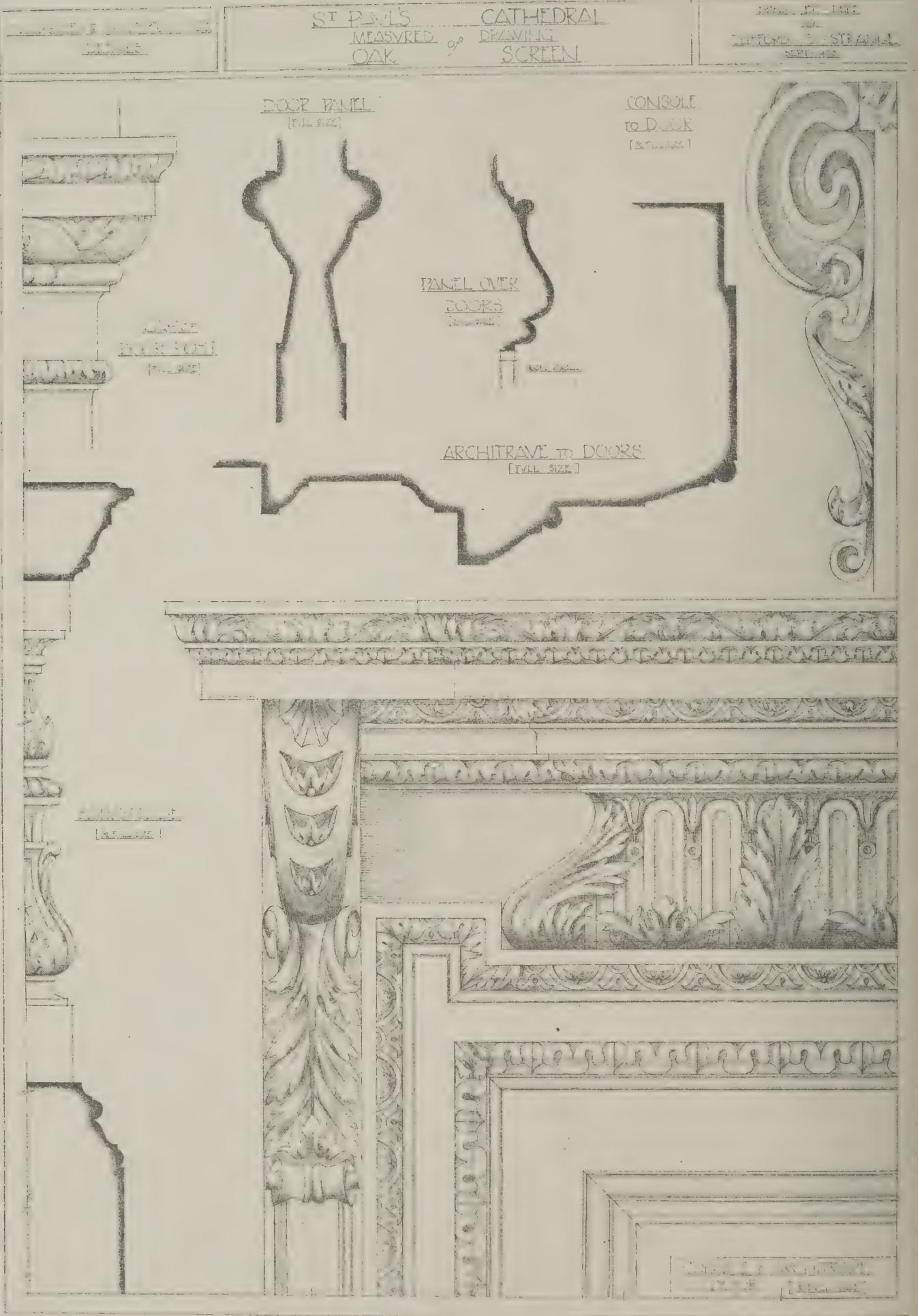
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CHURCH AT MUSTAIL, SWITZERLAND.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY CHR. MEISSER.

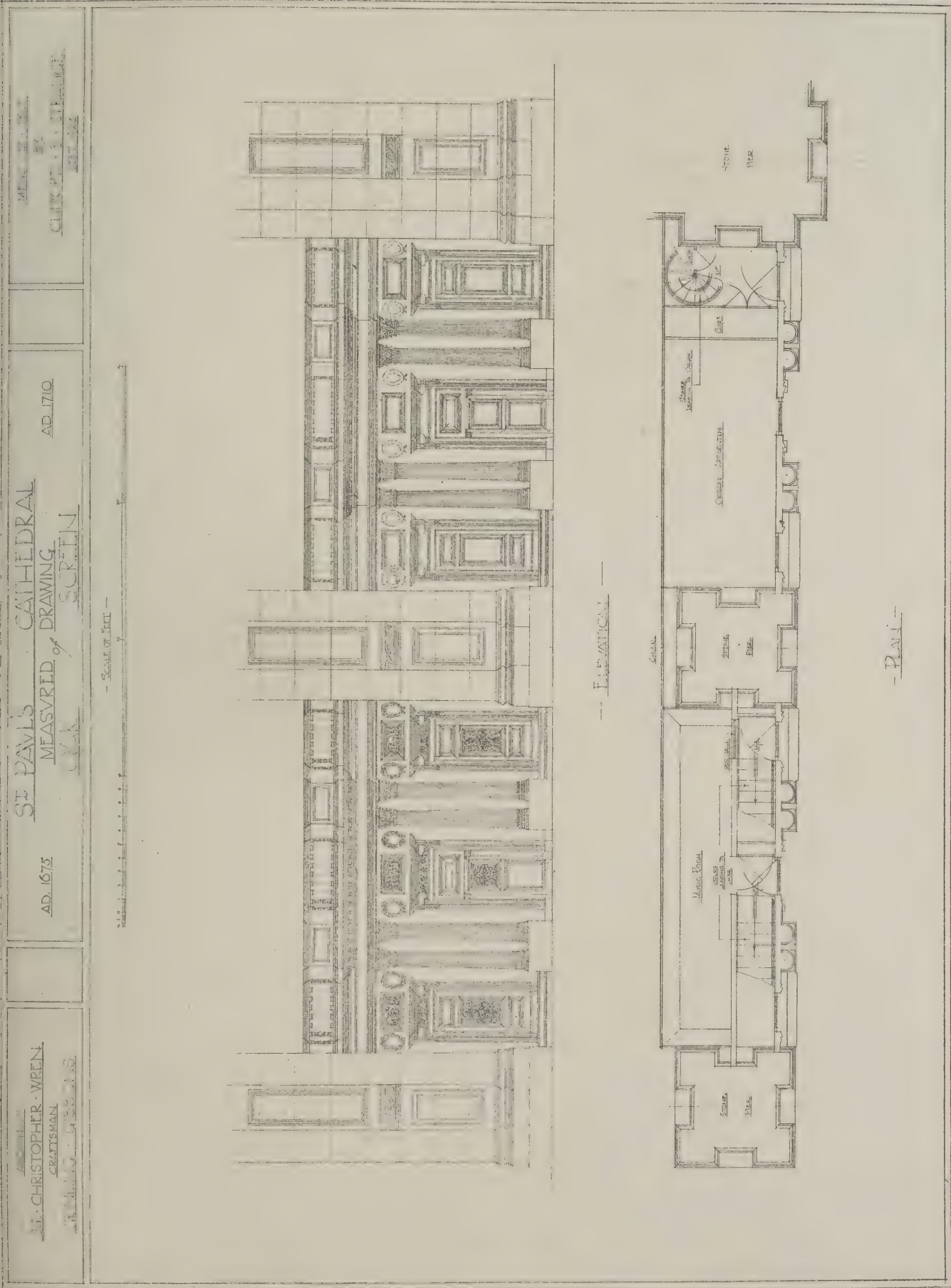
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MEASURED DRAWING BY CLIFFORD S. STRANGE.



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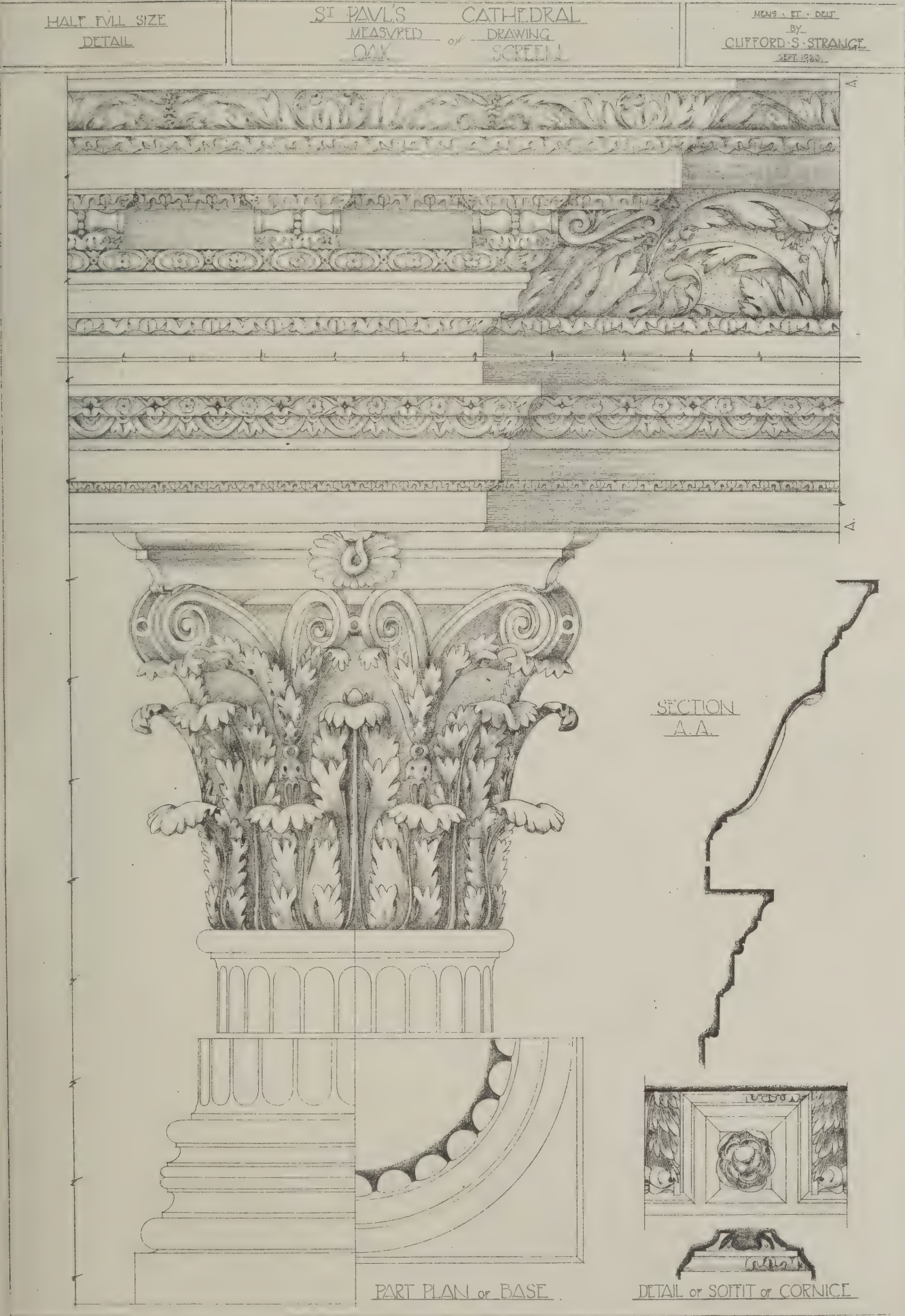
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STUDY IN CLASSICAL ELEMENTS.

By A. B. GRAYSON.



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they are here. When he is at last in this frame of mind he may be able to take a saner view of the so-called housing question which has arisen out of ignorance and is fostered by illusions. The housing question is the direct outcome of so-called social legislation, and every house for which the State pays, either wholly or partly in the form of subsidies, tends to make it more acute. If we want to end it we ought to do away with all control of rents and at most assist those wanting to build by giving loans at the cheapest rates which are financially sound. We do not say that this would lead to the instant recovery of the patient, whose health has been damaged by the quack remedies employed, but it would be the first and best step towards recovery, and one which will have to be made in the near future. We have no "devastated areas" in the war sense, but we have had a shortage caused by the devastating want of common sense of our Governments and of Labour itself.

Housing Rumours.

It is stated that the new Government has found it impossible to launch their programme of 200,000 houses a year because of the shortage of bricklayers and other craftsmen, but especially bricklayers. Half of the bricklayers are said to have emigrated to the United States during the last ten years. It may be a little consolation to know that in America those who "slack" meet with very short shrift!

School of Arts and Crafts, Southend.

One is apt when commenting upon the efforts and programmes of education in force at the senior architectural bodies, and on architectural education in general, to dismiss with a few words of criticism those spheres of activity which lie rather away from the central hub of things. There is no doubt, however, that architectural education thrives in no mean manner in various Art Schools in the provinces, and the Board of Education has at length become alive to possibilities in this sphere of Art Education. All true lovers of Art are always anxious to foster and encourage any signs of progress enlivening activity and increase of scope in any School of Art. Sir Martin Conway, Slade Professor at the University of Oxford, visited the above School on Thursday, January 10, for the purpose of opening the exhibition of Students' work and to open a new wing which has recently been added for the purpose of increasing the facilities in architectural and allied craft teaching. In the course of an admirable address, Sir Martin Conway gave some pithy advice to his audience.

Sir Martin Conway, M.P., who represents the Combined English Universities, was formerly Slade Professor of Fine Arts at Cambridge. He visited Southend recently, and opened the new craft room at the Municipal School of Arts and Crafts.

After a look round the exhibition, he said he had been impressed by the quality and the wide scope of the work which was undertaken at the school. They did not merely teach people to paint pictures, but they taught them to acquire skill and become craftsmen and artists. If two rival nations were pitted against each other, one devoted to literature and learning and the other to skill in craftsmanship, the skilled nation would win every time. But there was more in art than that. He asked them to consider for a moment what art really meant. It was a broad designation which included a great deal more than was commonly regarded to be included in the term. First of all it implied the artist. Most people stopped there, but if there was no one to appreciate the artist's work, there would be no art created. The artist was a man who in one way or another got the idea of beauty whether it was an abstract idea of nature or beauty as applied to use. The conception of beauty arose in the mind of the artist in an emotional moment, and he gave it a material form, and that conception of beauty was enshrined in a form which gave the idea to someone else. It might be in a dance, in poetry, it might be in a painting or an addition of beauty to some object of ordinary use—a chair or a table—but in that material form it must be capable of being appreciated by someone else. Not perhaps by everybody, but by some. It was only when those people arose who could appreciate art that art was created. The two classes of people must exist and were inter-dependent. They would never get fine works of art created in a society of people which was blind to their beauty. The real test of the artistic quality of a nation was its artistic sense. If people bought the bad or indifferent works and did not buy the good, then they would never develop a class of artist of the higher type. Continuing, Sir Martin said: They had got to that moment in history when their own country and mankind in

The new Government now finds, we gather, that the utmost they can do is to bring about the building of 120,000 houses in a year in lieu of the 100,000 which were being carried out under the scheme of the last Government, which was condemned as being so insufficient. We are reminded of the saying of Charles II., who remarked that no one would make away with him to provide a throne for his brother James. Have the housing enthusiasts who supported the new *regime* to obtain more housing reason to be gratified at the difference? What is more serious is that there is a repetition of the silly cant about stopping luxury buildings to make room for more housing. A luxury building was always difficult to define, but we should be inclined to describe it as "a building which could only be erected with State aid." In other words, it is State-aided housing which contributes the luxury, as it is being carried out out of the proceeds of taxation, and means that industry is additionally handicapped by the overhead charges it has to bear, with the result that employment is checked. We gather that the trades unions have made a modest request for 20 years' guarantee of employment before they will give their gracious consent to any scheme of dilution! It is a thousand pities that the country does not show its determination to let Labour stew in the juice of its own unreason and prejudice. Spoon feeding agitation does not seem to soothe its extravagances, which should be dealt with by the application of drastic common sense.

general wanted something new. Art would lead the way. Artists were trying to find the right line. Soon a distinct development would take form and when that happened it would be a great day for artists, for they would work together in the new age and then they, in turn, would be followed by decadence and another world. (Loud applause.)

The vote of thanks to Sir Martin Conway was proposed by Mr. J. Wm. Burrows, J.P., the Chairman of the Higher Education Sub-Committee, who said that Sir Martin had given them broad, high views of the relationship of art to life, and his presence was a testimony to the fact that Southend was doing its best to live up to the ideals, and its duties to the age.

Sir Charles Nicholson, the eminent church architect, seconded the vote of thanks and referred to the success of one of the architectural students, who, he said, might not make a fortune by his work, but would obtain much happiness, which was worth all else. (Applause.)

Afterwards the new wing for instruction in building trades was opened by Sir Martin Conway, Mr. Connabeer, principal, explaining that it cost £900, and as a penny rate in Southend produced £3,000 there was little doubt that the educational work done in the room would justify the expense.

Referring to the School of Arts and Crafts at Southend-on-Sea, it is interesting to note that for some years this School has advanced upon the right lines with astonishing rapidity and success. Developing as a separate body from its cramped quarters in the Technical Institute and housed in temporary buildings of its own under the capable and energetic efforts of the Principal, Mr. A. J. Connabeer, A.M.C., the school now has a total of 300 students under tuition. Mr. Connabeer was responsible for the inception of the Junior Art School, where boys and girls leaving the various Secondary Schools in the Borough may continue their general education, together with the first principles of Art Education. From a small staff of five this body is now increased to twelve capable instructors, mostly drawn from the Royal College of Art, upon whom the credit of the success of the school devolves, all being experts in their particular branch.

In the present issue of THE ARCHITECT we include in our inset plates some examples of the work executed in the Architectural Section of this school. This section is under the care of Mr. D. N. Martin-Kaye, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Leonard Freeborn. The former is an old student of the Architectural Association, and had the privilege of studying under the care and personal guidance of Mr. Robert Atkinson, F.R.I.B.A., who perhaps then came into more intimate touch with the students. This clever master is bound to leave an undying influence on his pupils and an influence that is not expressed in any particular mannerism, but is rather of a spiritual quality. Those who studied under Professor Lanteri, Gerald Moira, Stephen Webb, Richard Lunn and Sir Walter Crane at the Royal College of Art, will always be subject to the influences that these men inspired—A will to do, and a spirit to overcome all difficulties.

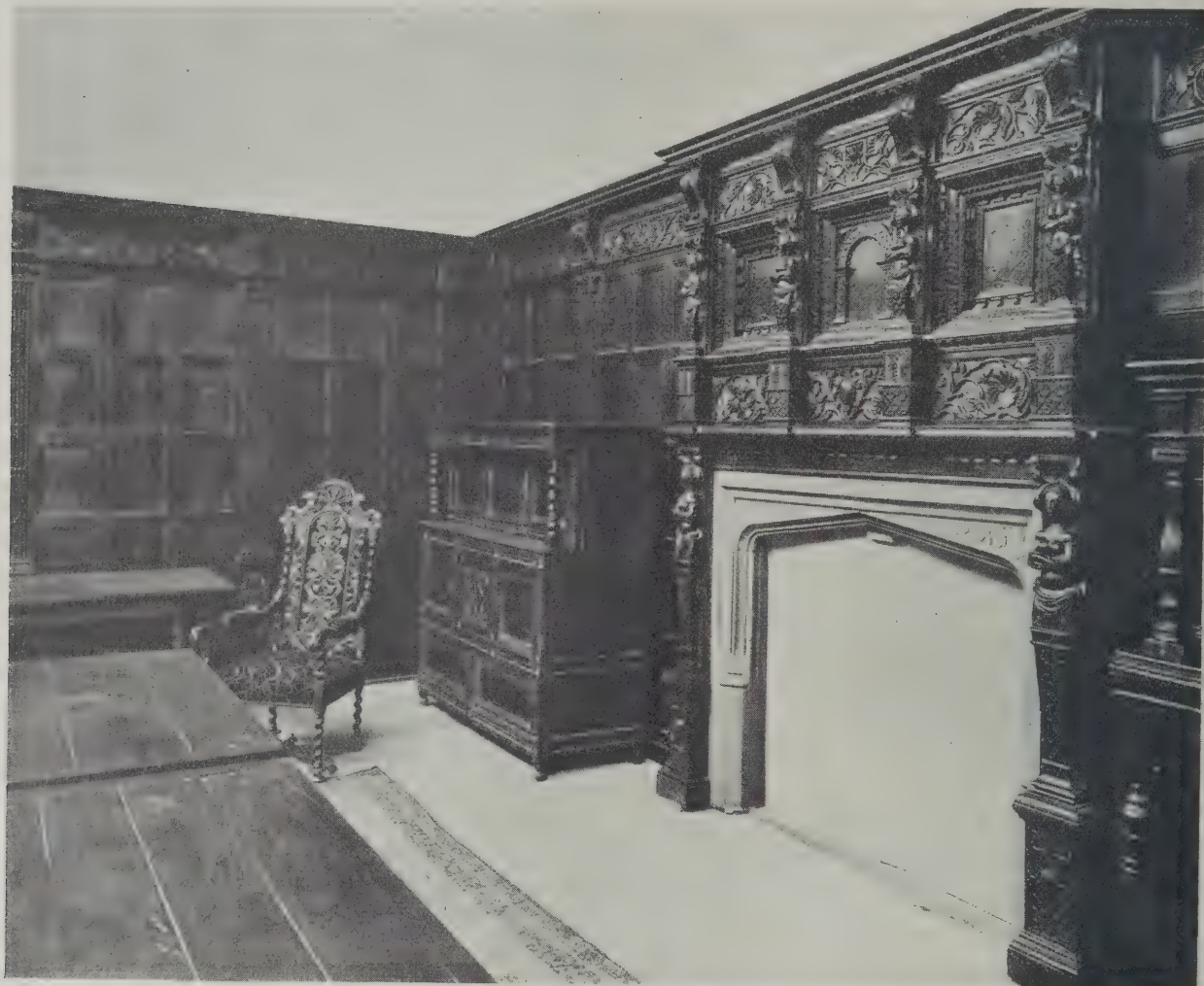
English Renaissance Interiors.—III.

P. W. Hubbard, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

In the foregoing articles we have traced the change effected in the character of wall surfaces throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; it now remains for us to observe the development of such features as mantelpieces, doors and ceilings. Perhaps the most prominent characteristics one might notice on entering a Jacobean room would be the chimneypiece. This was generally contrived as one large feature reaching from floor to ceiling, and not necessarily falling in with or continuing the mural scheme of decoration.

towards the end of the eighteenth century the "Adam" mantelpiece often assumed the appearance of an isolated feature which did not break the continuity of the wall-paper or stucco above its projecting shelf. The usual position for a fireplace was in the centre of one of the sides of a room, but when necessity arose it could be very charmingly disposed in a corner, a method which Wren so successfully adopted at Hampton Court Palace. In this case a series of shelves over the opening was recessed back to the angle of the walls, making an excellent place on which



PANELLING AT LYME REGIS (circa 1615). By kind permission of MESSRS. ROBBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.

What the whole chimneypiece lacked in scholarly design of classic form and detail it amply made up for in bold, if sometimes crude, carving and elaborate enrichments. In early work we generally find the flat Tudor arch spanning the opening of the fireplace. Under Inigo Jones, as one might expect, the mantelpiece assumes something of the form of a regular entablature. The arch over the opening changes in aspect to that of a lintel, and the frieze gives a splendid field for ornament, as, indeed, does the whole overmantel, on which so many famous artists lavished their skill.

Mr. Gotch has drawn attention to the fact that chimneypieces in the first half of the seventeenth century were of two stages—mantel and overmantel.

Wren, with his ripe imagination, used a large, bold moulding for surrounding the opening, and produced a more domestic effect on the whole feature, which now became a one-storey affair.

After Kent published his "Designs of Inigo Jones" in 1727, a reversion to the two-stage type took place, but

to display pieces of china or the new Dutch pottery and porcelain ware, known as Delft, that had become the fashion during William III.'s reign.

In most cases the chimneypieces were designed by the architects who built the houses in which they were placed; hence they are usually of the free classic style initiated by Inigo Jones, his nephew Webb, Edward Carter and others.

In some cases, as at Wilton, the work was carried out in Italy, and the finished article was sent over to England, or else Italian workmen carved the mantelpieces over here. Nevertheless, excellent work was achieved by craftsmen in this country like Nicholas Stone. Marble, alabaster, wood and stone were the materials employed for this work, though in the time of the Adam brothers a sort of composition was used, which took the place of plaster of Paris. Mr. Strange says that "about this time chimneypieces were made of 'scagliola,' a kind of ornamental plaster or artificial stone prepared from gypsum and Flanders glue, and made to imitate the colours of marble."



JACOBEOAN OAK PANELLING (circa 1650). By kind permission of MESSRS. ROBERSON'S, Knightsbridge.

The general practice was for craftsmen to carry out their work *in situ*, though this cannot always be said with regard to mantelpieces; nevertheless this feature was not out of harmony with the rest of the decoration. The dark paneling of the walls served as an effective background for the splendid mantels of this period, so cunningly wrought from the products of Carrara, which were softer than the common statuary marbles. Though both these came from Italy and were greatly in vogue, as was also the *verde antique* from Egypt, we nevertheless used our own red and white Plymouth marble. Black touchstone from Belgium was sometimes employed, and beautiful qualities were obtained from white alabaster, so like fine statuary marble, or the ornamental type, which was veined red and yellow. Centre medallions with their coloured inlay work added a note of distinction, which was really more effective than surfaces of marble broken by streaked and veined mouldings of the same material. Quantities of designs for chimneypieces have been published throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, all more or less following the lines laid down by Inigo Jones. William Kent was prone to copy the small broken-pediment feature which we sometimes find in the former's work. This was generally eschewed by Gibbs, who perfected a very scholarly type of mantel.

Later in the eighteenth century, Ince and Mayhew and the Halfpennys made some elaborate and extravagant

designs, which gave place to the essentially refined work of Richardson, Carter, Pain, R. and J. Adam, Chambers and others.

Throughout this classically inclined period details of composition were all worked out into a system of proportion; for instance, a table showing the correct sizes of chimneypieces was published in a joint work by Milton, Crumden and Columbani, who obtained a measure of popularity about 1775.

The size of the opening of the fireplace was determined by the length of the walls, thus demonstrating the attention that was paid to proportion. However, we must not forget what Mr. Gotch points out, that the large open hearth and big flues, which were essential for the burning of great logs of wood, were unnecessary for coal consumption. The advent of this fuel for domestic purposes was the factor responsible for the filling in of the opening of the fireplace, the contraction of the flue and the introduction of the firegrate.

To turn to another feature, we find that doors follow the same manner as the rest of the interior woodwork—namely, a combination of freedom with formality. Again, the classic motif is present, the overdoor resembles an entablature. As in mantelpieces, so in doors does the frieze lend itself to a wealth of decoration.

Rich architraves and consoles are prolific. Broken pediments, which leave a space for a vase or some carved

feature, such as a shield, were common. The big panels and heavy carving of Wren's day gave way to the more refined work of the Adam type. Six panels were the rule, but as many as ten can be found in the doors of this period.

In the former one would expect the meeting rail to line with the dado rail, but this was not always effected on account of the door handle, which naturally assumed a position which accorded with convenience and use. Otherwise the divisions of a door to a certain degree reflect the horizontal lines of the walls.

The tall rectangular openings in the wall for windows, which were used by the early Renaissance architects, were eminently suited to the new sash type of window, said to have been introduced from Holland. The old stone

carried over the ceilings with an equal wealth of ornament. Bosses and pendants, reminiscent of ecclesiastical work, are often found. The whole surface would represent a mass of intricate designs, superb in craftsmanship, but often without a readily understandable theme. Contemporary with plaster, we find also wooden ceilings, but in the large mansions of the late Jacobean and Stuart periods the trabeation is pronounced. Constructional beams over large spans are emphasised and richly decorated. Where they are very deep the cornice is made to travel along them, and thus the ceiling becomes split up into compartments. Circles, octagons and other shapes in high relief are placed within these, so that the change from the small fretted patterns of Tudor times to this coffered and panelled work



ROOM AT 27 HATTON GARDEN. Reproduced by permission of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Mullions, casements and lead glazing, so dear to the heart of Tudor England, had perforce to give way to the new vogue of formality and the regular spacing which we identify with the reign of Queen Anne.

Inigo Jones was wont to use very large openings which, though stately in effect, could be exaggerated in less capable hands—to wit, William Kent, at Kensington Palace.

Venetian windows, supposed to have been invented by Scamozzi, were frequently used at this time. Mr. Stratton emphasises the attention paid to the architectural treatment of windows from the inside, and suggests that they were not originally intended to be draped with curtains. At all events, considerable skill was lavished in their construction, and no small amount of joinery was expertly used for the making of frames and shutters, etc. We may refer to the previously mentioned "fining down" of architectural detail as each style neared the close of its progress, since the thin and narrow strips of wood of the late eighteenth century, which superseded the stout glazing bars of early Georgian days, afford a good example of this.

With regard to ceilings, we have already noted the excellence of Elizabethan plaster work. The rich decoration of the deep friezes, which were sometimes coloured, was

is very noticeable. In high rooms the cove feature is prominent, and the heavy borders of geometrical patterns are luxuriantly enriched by the bold modelling of fruit and flowers. This combination of conventional and naturalistic forms treated in such a strong and vigorous manner drew from the Adam brothers a condemnation that seems hard to justify, although we fully appreciate the "desire of lightness" which became the keynote of their interiors.

R. and J. Adam were fortunate in being able to employ such great artists as Bonhomi, Zucchi, Pergolesi, Cipriani and Angelica Kauffmann for the decorative work on their walls, ceilings and furniture. Mr. Stratton reminds us that the last half of the eighteenth century saw the vogue of "classical subjects painted in the geometrical spaces assigned to them," and arabesques and "paintings framed in panels took the place of modelled enrichments in stucco." The above-mentioned artists were careful to place their ornaments and paintings in such a position and make them of such a kind that they could be easily seen and comprehended. This was a reversion from the previous style of filling up the entire wall surface and ceilings with gigantic compositions which, however well painted, required careful examination and study from certain positions if they were

to be viewed with comfort and understanding. During the English Renaissance period, the Italian fashion of painting became the vogue in this country, but was usually confined to the more spacious mansions of great personages than to the general run of English houses.

Ceilings afforded greater scope for the artists than did walls. The Banqueting Hall, Whitehall, is said to be the first example of a large ceiling treated as a field for colour composition, and bears testimony to the skill of Rubens.

During this era foreigners were extensively employed. Verrio, who was brought over by Charles II., was given work at Westminster and Montague House, while Blenheim exemplifies the art of Laguerre, and Hampton Court that of Rousseau. These artists did a large amount of work from the Restoration until George II. At the same time it may be noted that Wren relied rather on the school of Grinling Gibbons for decoration than on the work of painters.

However, it must not be forgotten that this country also produced artists of note. That versatile architect William Kent expended much skill with his brush at Castle Howard and other places, while Sir James Thornhill's work at Greenwich and St. Paul's Cathedral and St. Mary Abchurch is well known.

After the Restoration ceilings were filled with allegorical compositions of gods and clouds, emperors and triumphs, fat cupids and the like. Most books on this subject seem to quote the following couplet from Pope, so we make no apology for repeating it here.

"On painted ceilings you devoutly stare,
Where sprawl the saints of Verrio and Laguerre."

Personal details are generally of more interest than importance, but we may mention an example of artistic tradition for what it is worth. John Webb was the son-in-law of Inigo Jones; so was Laguerre of Tijou, the great iron worker; and Sir James Thornhill was the father-in-law of Hogarth.

Before concluding, let us take a look at a typical William and Mary room, or one reflecting the spirit of the last quarter of the seventeenth century.

The reaction from Cromwellian austerity has set in some twenty-five years before, and the architectural detail is still vigorous; but by this time our understanding of Renaissance art is becoming purer and our English interpretation of it more definite.

The room we will consider in imagination is, say, twenty feet by thirty feet. The height, according to Gibbs' proportion, should be equal to the height of the shortest side—namely, twenty feet; if the ceiling were coved or arched, 25 feet. This seems too high to our modern ideas, and in practice the room would probably not be more than fifteen feet from floor to ceiling. If it be the dining or withdrawing room, we should enter from a hall, perhaps paved with Portland stone and black marble set in diamond pattern. The door would have six panels moulded and raised and possibly be made of cedar, as mahogany had not yet really come into fashion. We should find a classic over-door and hood—so illogical for interior work—and perhaps a pseudo-keystone of wood that was equally illogical.

The room has a dado, large oak raised panels with wide bevels, cut to show the greatest amount of grain, and the whole surmounted by a wooden cornice. On the other hand, according to the taste and means of the owner, we might find only a dado and panels of Spitalfields silk, and the room resplendent in green velvet hangings and Norwich damask.

On one of the short sides there is an alcove for a side-board and opposite is the fireplace, over which is a panel specially enriched with carving and containing an oil painting. Round the opening is the large bold moulding of stone or wood, so dear to Wren, surmounted by a wide mirror in three pieces, the centre one of which is circular headed.

On one of the walls hangs a double bevelled pier-glass in a gilt frame of Louis XIV. character, and from the centre of the deep circular panel in the ceiling is suspended a glass chandelier holding perhaps twenty to thirty candles.

Chairs with their cabriole legs and claw-and-ball feet are in evidence, as also the walnut bureau with the usual secret drawer. A grandfather clock of the same wood with

Dutch marqueterie inlay stands in one of the corners, while facing the large sash windows in a good light is a cabinet containing Delft.

At a later date we might find a marble-topped table of Florentine design on a gilt stand, the former harmonising with the colour of the marble mantelpiece, which is also enriched with wood carvings. As already mentioned, this feature is becoming smaller, and contains a grate with a cast-iron fireback showing some allegorical idea or displaying the family coat-of-arms. The Chinese fashion is gaining force, and the purer styles of Ince and Mayhew, Robert Manwaring and Chippendale have become contaminated by its influence. Lacquered walls and furniture may now be seen. In fact, lacquer works were started in England in 1690.

After the low relief of Adam, already described, we find that plain surfaces are almost everywhere adopted, and with this the end of the eighteenth century and our period of English Renaissance art draws to a close.

Two hundred years ago our greatest architect died, but in a record known as the "Parentalia," published by his grandson in 1750, Sir Christopher Wren discloses this golden rule. He says there are two causes of beauty—namely, "Natural and Customary."

The first is derived from geometry, consisting in uniformity and proportion; and the second "is begotten by the use of our senses to those objects which are pleasing to us for other causes, as familiarity or particular inclination breeds a love of things not in themselves lovely."

Greek and Gothic revivals have come and gone and the present day finds it hard to repair the broken continuity. There are so many divergent forces, so many changes, not only in material but also in modern thought and outlook, that have been brought about in this century, that it may, perhaps, be impossible to resuscitate that which has had its day, but if the sources of inspiration are sound we may hope for a continuance of a tradition, from which all our art effort should be derived.

AUTHORITIES.

"English Furniture, Decoration, Woodwork, etc.," by T. A. Strange.

"The Growth of the English House," by J. A. Gotch.

"The English Interior," by A. Stratton.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

FEBRUARY 7, 1874.

RESTORATIONS IN PARIS.

The parts of the Palais Royal which were burned by the Communists have been restored to their former condition, and the scaffolding has been removed. With the exception of the contrast in the colour of the old and new stonework there is little to show what had happened. The carved work has been all faithfully reproduced. The work necessary in the interior, especially in the right wing of the building (the last portion completed as regards the exterior), is about to be undertaken immediately, as that wing is to be devoted to the use of the Council of State, which is at present insufficiently accommodated in one of the official hôtels of the Rue de Grenelle Saint Germain.

The new buildings for the Ministry of War, at the Boulevard Saint Germain, are almost finished, the roof is in place, most of the façade and much of the ornamental sculpture are completed. A remarkable portion of the new edifice is a tower of a lozenge form which occupies an angle, it is a sort of belvedere resembling that of the ancient belfries, and terminates with an acroterium. A clock with two faces occupies the tower. The line of the old and new buildings not being regular, a small piece of ground is to be planted as a garden, to conceal the departure from the straight line, and will be enclosed by a handsome railing. The appearance of the whole is rather bizarre, but it would be unfair to judge of the effect at present, while a portion of the façade is unfinished and hidden by scaffolding and sculptors' sheds. At present the want of symmetry causes a rather curious effect.

The restoration and completion of the great fountain of the Château d'Eau have been resumed, the large basin, with the pedestals to receive the bronze lions, as well as the upper basin, whence the water is to flow, are completed as regards the stone work; the damaged stones, which were large and numerous, not having been rejected, but pieced neatly and economically. The upper portion, which is to support grand candelabra, is commenced, and there seems a probability that this work, which was commenced ten years since, will now be shortly completed, and will add greatly to the effect of the largest public place in Paris, and the point of junction of four broad boulevards.

London Door-Knockers.

By Charles G. Harper.

"Here's a knocking! . . . Who's there, in the name of Beelzebub?"—SHAKESPEARE.

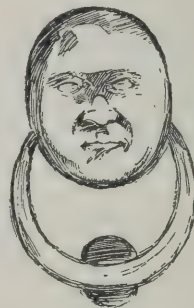
The day of the door-knocker as a necessary adjunct to the street door is done. It came about when electric bells replaced the old-fashioned door-bell. But although there cannot now be done the trade in new knockers that once could be relied upon, we have still very much with us the old-fashioned knocker; and those folk who refuse to be modern and to disestablish their antiquated door furniture have wisdom; for the electric bell is a perverse scientific introduction that goes out of commission unexpectedly. You who seek an "Open Sesame" will never know whether or not you are pressing a futile finger on a bell-push that, for some reason or other, renders no sound within; but you generally may hear the old-style bell clanging within the recesses of the house you would fain enter: and on the knocker you may play what salvos you will. Myself, I am a modest person and do not work door-knockers hard; so that sometimes I make my presence known only belatedly.

Long have I taken an interest in door-knockers. I specialise in them, ancient and modern, English and foreign, and those of town and country. And, believe me, the study of London's door-knockers is one that yields much entertainment. There was, some years ago, a veritable cult of the door-knocker in London. The West End displayed a rich variety; alike of antique knockers and modern examples. Lady Dorothy Neville in Charles Street, off Berkeley Square, had a wrought-iron knocker, designed by herself, displaying the Neville crest. But it, and the house alike, have gone, and the old lady has been gathered to her fathers, the Walpoles, long since.

And the late Lord Monkswell had on the door of his house, No. 7 Chelsea Embankment, a pair of very singular modern bronze knockers, like half-human dolphins. Each

had a countenance very closely resembling Thackeray's own sketch of his satyr-like "Lord Steyne" (by whom he meant Francis, the third Marquis of Hertford, who died in 1842) in "Vanity Fair." The first Lord Monkswell died in 1886, and his queer door-knockers have disappeared; as also has the little brass knocker with wings and a negroid head that used to be on the door of "Old Swan House" hard by. A very fine lion's head was on the door of "Garden Corner."

There was, until recent years, a horrid knocker on the door of No. 8 Craven Street, Strand. It is there no longer, because, in the first place, it was removed shortly after I first wrote about it, and, secondly, because the house has since been demolished. It was a brass knocker, displaying



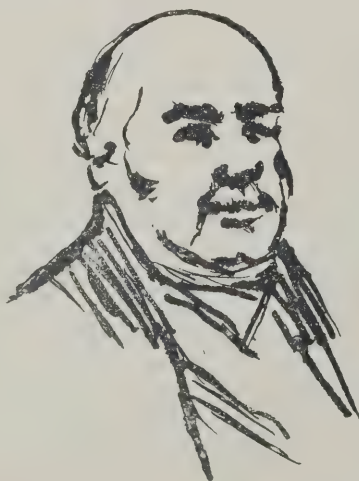
8 CRAVEN STREET, STRAND W.C.



WROUGHT-IRON. DESIGNED BY LADY DOROTHY NEVILLE. FORMERLY AT No. 43 CHARLES STREET.



LORD MONKSWELL'S,
CHELSEA
EMBANKMENT.



"LORD STEYNE,"
from a drawing in
"Vanity Fair."

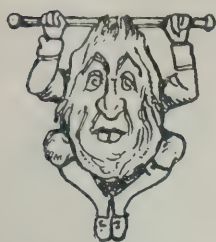
the countenance of a very ill-favoured man. In the days when my friend the late E. T. Cook (afterwards Sir Edward Cook) edited the "Pall Mall Gazette" I wrote for him an article in which I described this knocker. The house was at that time a private hotel. The aggrieved proprietress of it (and of the knocker) very promptly called upon the editor and complained of the description. The knocker, it seemed, was a portrait of her father! There was a pretty how d'ye do! The article conferred upon the hideous knocker a certain notoriety, and photographers used to go round to Craven Street and "take" it, and describe it as the original of the Scrooge and Marley knocker in Dickens's "Christmas Carol" (which it was not); and the last state of Mrs. Clothier—for that was the name of her—was worse than her first. In sheer self-defence, and also, I suppose, out of filial piety, she removed the gruesome thing.

Dickens's contribution to the literature of the knocker, as referred to above, is worth more than a passing mention. Scrooge, you will remember, was returning home on Christmas Eve to his mouldy old house, and, letting himself in, "saw in the knocker, without its undergoing any intermediate process of change—not a knocker, but Marley's face."

Now Marley had been his partner in business—Marley was dead and gone; and it must have been bad to imagine a dead man's face in a knocker, especially when, as Dickens tells us, it "had a dismal light about it, like a bad lobster in a dark cellar." When one sees things like that, it must surely be a case for a specialist.

"It was not angry, or ferocious, but looked at Scrooge as Marley used to look; with ghostly spectacles turned up on its ghostly forehead. Fortunately, as Scrooge looked fixedly at this phenomenon, it was a knocker again."

On the whole, I prefer the Thackeray knocker: for he, too, has a notable knocker allusion. It is the story of Gruffanuff, the porter in "The Rose and the Ring." In that story the Fairy Blackstick waved her wand, and transformed the surly porter into a brass knocker. He felt himself rising off the ground and fluttering up against the door, and then, as if a screw ran into his stomach, he felt a dreadful pain there, and was pinned to the door; and then his arms flew up over his head, and his legs, after writhing about wildly, twisted about under his body; and he felt cold, cold growing over him, as if he was turning



RING ALSO

GRUFFANUFF
THE PORTER.

FROM GROSVENOR HOUSE.

into metal ; and he said " Oh-o-h'm," and could say no more because he was dumb.

He was turned into metal ! He was, from being *brazen*, *brass* ! He was neither more nor less than a knocker ! And there he was, nailed to the door all the bitter winter nights, till his brass nose was dripping with icicles. And the postman came and rapped at him, and the vulgarest boy with a letter came and hit him up against the door. The King said, " Hallo, my dear ! You have had a new knocker put on the door. Why, it's rather like our porter in the face ! What has become of that boozy vagabond ? "

And the housemaid came and scrubbed his face with sandpaper, and once, when the Princess Angelica's little sister was born, he was tied up in a kid glove ; and another night some *larking* young men tried to wrench him off, and put him to the most excruciating agony. And then the Queen had a fancy to have the colour of the door altered, and the painters dabbed him over the mouth and eyes, and nearly choked him, as they painted him pea-green. I warrant he had leisure to repent of having been rude to the Fairy Blackstick.

" All ye footmen rude and rough,
Warning take by Gruffanuff."

And Mr. Thackeray admirably illustrated his own quaint conception.

As to brass knockers : they long were supposed to indicate boarding-houses ; and the late Mr. G. R. Sims indeed wrote a book of short stories to this allusion, " Behind a Brass Knocker." But that idea is gone, together with much else Middle-Victorian. The brass knocker dated from the eighteenth century, and there are yet many good examples on London doors.



MODERN BRONZE. FORMERLY AT No. 14 BRUTON STREET.

At that time I have spoken of, some twenty-five to thirty years ago, when a cult of the knocker prevailed in London, there were a good many very large and very ancient Venetian and other Italian knockers on doors in the West End. A prominent example is yet on the door of No. 26 Grosvenor Square. Others will be seen at Nos. 12 and 14 Bruton Street.

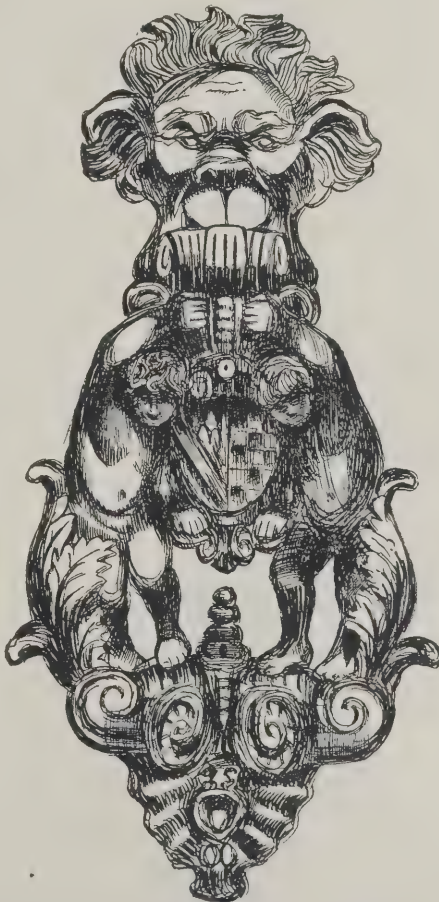
A French writer in 1784, visiting London, wrote : " The brass knockers of doors, which cost from 12s. to 15s., are stolen at night, if the owners forget to unscrew them."

But those dangerous times for door-knockers are done. No one now unscrews knockers at night ; even though they be valuable sixteenth-century Italian works of art. Knocker-wrenching survived into the sixties of last century, but not for the actual purpose of gain. They were the young men about town who did that for a " spree." Nor do I think the ancient sport of tying a rope to a knocker on one side of the street and tying the other end to that on the door of the opposite house has survived, although the fun resultant on giving a double-knock at one door and witnessing it being opened, with the obvious sequel of the other knocker being rapped, was delightful to the sportsman.

A genuine antique from Pompeii is to be seen on the door of No. 12 Portman Street, Oxford Street. It has been there for many years. When first I saw it, a delicate green patina covered this beautiful bronze. It represents a head and bust of Diana, the divine huntress of classic lore, with the tusks resembling horns and elephants' ears and trunk that are her attributes. To-day this fine knocker is thickly varnished, all over.

For an equally long number of years a very fine and heavy bronze, a sixteenth-century Italian work, showing the Milanese arms, has been on the door of No. 1 Tilney Street, Park Lane, the property of Lord Esher. Several copies of this are to be found : one in bright brass at No. 11 Chesterfield Street ; at 77 Eaton Square, 87 Eaton Place, and elsewhere.

At No. 43 Cadogan Square is an interesting knocker antique representing Circe taming two lions ; and at No. 3 is a Neptune-like figure blowing a conch-shell ; while two or three other fine knockers will be seen in the same Square.

MILANESE KNOCKER, 16TH CENTURY.
No. 1 TILNEY STREET.

Lions' heads ever have formed a favourite motive in the design of door-knockers ; and they will be found of curiously varied form. The example formerly at " Garden Corner," already mentioned, was one made for that art-lover, J. Staats Fobes. There is a worried-looking lion's head knocker on the door of the Prime Minister's residence, No. 10 Downing Street, and a very good couple of stern-looking lions' heads at Grosvenor House, the Duke of Westminster's residence. But the very fine lioness's head

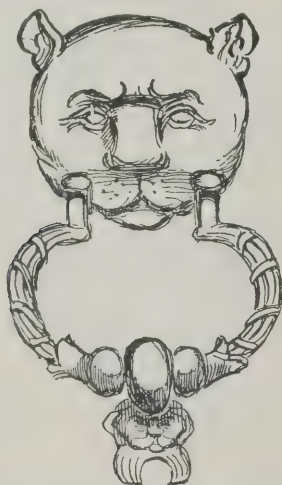
formerly on a door in Charles Street, Berkeley Square, has gone. The late Mr. Samuel Hope Morley had, at No. 43 Upper Grosvenor Street, a pair of decorative modern knockers: feminine terminal figures, with faces exactly

manship, may be seen on the door of No. 1 South Audley Street. They represent mermaids. Latterly they have acquired the look of antiques. A sixteenth-century Florentine knocker once graced a door in Bloomsbury



No. 3 CADOGAN SQUARE.

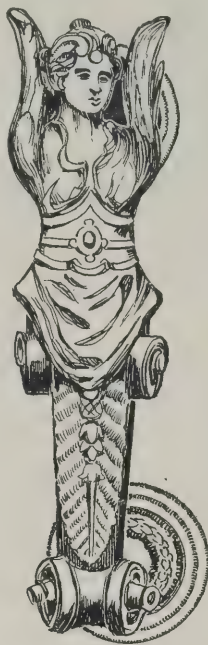
resembling Belle Bilton, afterwards Lady Clancarty. Mr. Morley was that kind of person who, had he been told of the resemblance, would, I am quite sure, have exchanged his knockers for some other similitude. These knockers, or a pair exactly like them, will now be found on the door of No. 32 Portman Square.



A LIONESS KNOCKER.
CHARLES STREET, BERKELEY SQUARE.

And there was in those days a queer and engaging little pig knocker at No. 49 Lennox Gardens. It was not precious in metal, for it was but iron, and it was modern; but it was a precious little fancy.

A beautiful pair of bronze knockers, of modern work-



MODERN ENGLISH, IN
BRONZE.
32 PORTMAN SQUARE.



ONE OF A PAIR:
MODERN ENGLISH, IN BRONZE.
No. 1 SOUTH AUDLEY STREET.

Square, and one is to be seen at No. 48 Charles Street, the residence of Lady Burghclere. A Venus-like figure decorated the door of No. 14 Bruton Street; and a very heavy antique knocker, with five amorini, is on the door of No. 17 Berkeley Square. Two very fine Medusa heads were on the double-doors of the Duke of Devonshire's house in Piccadilly until recently. In 1891 Mr. Harry Bates showed at the Dudley Gallery a graceful bronze knocker, a nude, representing Art.



FLORENTINE BRONZE, 16TH CENTURY.
FORMERLY IN BLOOMSBURY SQUARE.

An iron sixteenth-century German knocker, of the then conventional type in that country, with projections like moustaches, is on the door of the little house, No. 2 Jones Street, Berkeley Square.

"No cursed knocker," wrote Thomson, in his "Castle of Indolence," in the eighteenth century. The poet, using such



ITALIAN BRONZE, 16TH CENTURY.
No. 47 BERKELEY SQUARE.

language, must have been a sufferer from nerves—reason for that, perhaps, because he lived in Bond Street, which then was not precisely the fashionable shopping centre it now is, but rather more of a modish residential street. Footmen all day long were then volleying at the door-knocker, and Thomson suffered a surfeit of it; and wrote, accordingly, with fire and passion.

There was once a recognised code of knocking. Most of this has disappeared, together with many other conventional social observances; and almost the only relic of it is the familiar “postman’s knock,” the short, sharp, double “rat-tat.” For any other person to use the “postman’s knock” is an offence in this unwritten code of manners, and hawkers and would-be vendors and other unwanted callers thus masquerading as postmen rightly receive short and angry responses: for who is there but resents the anticipation of a letter being thus wantonly disappointed?

The once well-understood etiquette of door-knocking was no small thing. In those bygone days of yet not so very long ago, when Society people kept “plum-pudding dogs” (i.e., Dalmatian spotted black and white dogs) to run beneath their carriages, the right and proper way with a knocker, when a lady was paying calls, was an essential part of the education of a footman. “Let me hear how you knock” a lady would say, on engaging a man-servant. If he had not properly acquired the art, he did not secure the place. For, according to a little work published in 1823 by Hatchard and Son, called “The Footman’s Directory and Butler’s Remembrancer”—“In knocking at a gentleman’s door, you should not ring the bell unless you see it written on a brass plate to do so, except it should be at a relation’s of the family which you live with; then you always should ring as well as knock, and also at your own door, as this is a mark of respect, and a hint to the family and servants that some of the family are come home. Knock loud enough to be heard, as some of the halls and kitchens are a great way from the front door.”

A versifier of 1853, in a further little book, carries us on yet more:

“Bolus arrived and gave a doubtful tap,
Between a single and a double rap.
Knocks of this kind are given by gentlemen who
teach to dance;
By fiddlers and by opera-singers, one loud, and then a
little one behind.
As if the knocker fell by chance out of their fingers.”

The sport of knocker wrenching, very popular among the high-spirited bloods of the Regency period, survived in London well into the sixties of the nineteenth century among the “swells” of the period. A lively tale was told of the late Lord Beresford—better known as “Lord Charles Beresford”—who in his youth lusted after a once-famous pair of knockers at 48 Berkeley Square, belonging to the Marquis of Bath. They were antique, they were large, and

they were reputed to be of silver. The possession of these exceptional specimens as a trophy was long sought; but many attempts had ended in failure, when it occurred to the enterprising sportsman, in company with a young Guardsman, to try a hitherto unheard-of method of detaching these exceptionally well-secured knockers. Driving up in



DOLPHIN KNOCKERS. FORMERLY THE MARQUIS OF
BATH’S. No. 48 BERKELEY SQUARE.

a hansom, with a stout rope, they secured one end to the back of the cab and tied the other firmly to the knockers, leaving a good slack. They then resumed their seats in the cab, while the cabman, in whose features might have been recognised those of Lord Ribblesdale, smartly whipped up the horse. The rope came up tight, and the knockers came away, but two of the door panels with them. The affair was settled by surrendering the knockers, and payment for the damage caused. No longer does the Marquis of Bath reside at No. 48 Berkeley Square, but the two large dolphin knockers are yet to be seen on the door. At No. 47 is a fine Italian bronze knocker representing the Gemini.

The time seems to be at hand when, save for those enthusiasts who furnish their street doors with such choice



ITALIAN, 17TH CENTURY BRONZE. IN SOUTH
KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

examples as have been discussed here, knockers will no longer greatly be used; realising one of Gray’s lines in “The Toilet”:

“The thund’ring knocker wakes the street no more,
No chairs, no coaches, crowd her silent door.”

The estimated cost of the new railway station at Aberystwyth is placed at £100,000.

The Carnarvonshire County Council propose to erect a new school at Conway. The estimated cost is placed at £9,250, for which amount the County Council intend to apply for a loan.

The present buildings in Bute Street, Cardiff, are to be demolished to make room for the erection of new buildings for the National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.



SCHEME FOR APPROACHES TO THE PROPOSED NEW CHARING CROSS BRIDGE.

Amended Plan for Approaches to the Proposed New Charing Cross Bridge.

Mr. John Murray has sent us the above scheme for approaches to the proposed new Charing Cross Bridge. Mr. Murray's views are founded on a thorough knowledge of the facts of the case and are for that reason of special value.

This plan provides for one direct approach from Trafalgar Square via the Strand and Duncannon Street, and one approach from Piccadilly Circus via the proposed new Imperial Way. The Adelphi would be preserved lineable with and east of York Buildings. The existing Charing Cross Monument and the Strand Tube Station would be left undisturbed in their present positions.

A new elementary school at Skellow is to be built by the West Riding Education Committee. The school will accommodate 1,000 pupils.

Mr. John Jerdan, F.R.I.B.A., Edinburgh, has prepared plans for a large garage and workshops to be erected on a site west of the village of Dean, for the Wolseley Motors, Ltd. The building will be one of the largest and most up-to-date of its kind in Scotland; the estimates for its erection figure out between sixty and seventy thousand pounds.

There is a scheme in hand at Richmond (Yorkshire) for the erection of a new cinema, skating rink and "palais de danse." Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Wetherall & Son, architects. The building will be 110 feet by 50 feet, and will provide a seating capacity for 800 persons.

A new memorial hall and public library is to be erected at Llandilo. The Rural District Council have approved of the plans

prepared by Sir Charles Ruthen. The estimated cost of the buildings is given at £10,000, and the work of erecting the hall is to be started this month.

The Plymouth Corporation have decided to widen Coburg Street, and to re-erect the education offices. The scheme, which will cost over £60,000, also includes the building of a clinic.

The Manchester Housing Committee has prepared a scheme for the erection on a site of 41 acres of 484 houses at an estimated cost of £543 per house.

It is proposed to erect, if funds are available, a new hospital at Torquay. A capital site is obtainable, 14 acres for the sum of £8,000, and it is estimated an up-to-date hospital could be erected for a further £60,000.

The Town Council of Folkestone have instructed their surveyor to prepare plans for the erection of a band pavilion at the eastern end of the Marine Gardens; £15,000 is the estimated cost.



Housing Definitions.

A Government Housing Scheme is a well laid broad conduit guaranteed to drain away the taxpayers' money at a rapid rate. It must not be trapped or in any way congested in its course.

The Dole.—A fund provided by the taxpayers for the benefit of those who do not desire to work.

The Trades Unions.—Cleverly organised associations whose express object is to prevent the workers giving a *quantum meruit* for wages paid.

The Private Employer.—The enemy of the community who must be forced out of existence by comprehensive schemes of taxation, but before his death occurs he must be systematically worried.

The Architect.—A man who should be treated nicely at the outset, but payment of whose fees can be indefinitely delayed by the officials of the Ministry of Health.

A Housing Policy.—An intricate scheme seldom understood by the promoters, never effective in achieving its object, but perennially succeeded by another and, in the meantime, often amended.

Dilution.—An unpardonable offence which must not even be mentioned either in the presence of a workman or of a Trades Union official.

The Workers' Aim.—To be ready to down tools at any moment on receiving a wireless message from headquarters. In order to

be ready to do so they must not overtire themselves by over-work, and must take all reasonable forms of recreation open to them in working hours.

The Builder.—A capitalistic parasite and enemy of the community who should be dealt with by a system of strikes and malingering. Can occasionally be harried with the aid of the local authority; his final payments may be kept back (see "The Architect").

The Ministry of Health.—That body whose decisions are supreme if long delayed, whose scope is great but whose benevolence is greater. Was at one time engaged in a friendly struggle with the O. of W. respecting frontier delineation. Its pamphlets and notices constitute a branch of literature in themselves. Its head is constantly changing yet always wise.

The London County Council this week approved a contract, amounting to £18,977, for the erection of Tabard House on the Tabard Garden Estate. Two lower tenders were passed over because the Council would not agree to an "up and down" clause as regards wages which the tenderers required to be inserted in the contract. The annual deficiency on the capital charge of £1,217 is estimated at £314, or approximately £7 10s. a tenement, which will be met by the State grant. The contract price per "habitable room" works out at £149, which is the lowest tender received by the Council since 1914. Since the Armistice the Council has paid as much as £375 per room, whereas in July, 1914, the average price was £95 for tenement buildings of this character.

New Books.

"The Deeside Regional Planning Scheme." A report prepared for the Joint Committee of Local Authorities by Patrick Abercrombie, Sydney Kelly and Theodore Fyfe. The University Press of Liverpool and Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton. 7s. 6d. net.

"Stratford-on-Avon Future Development." Prepared at the instance of the Preservation Committee, by Patrick Abercrombie and Lancelot Abercrombie. The University Press of Liverpool and Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton. 7s. 6d. net.

These two works are interesting examples of Professor Abercrombie's power of dealing with very dissimilar problems, for the one is concerned with a large part of the country of Flintshire and the city of Chester, and the other with the immediate surroundings of the historic Warwickshire town.

The Deeside Regional Scheme includes the old city of Chester, and beyond Chester a great strip of the estuary of the Dee up to and including Holywell. It is a district sparsely populated for the most part, but rich in mineral wealth, especially coal and lead, the latter being found in the Halkyn mountain. The report deals with the development of the water frontages, for the most part shallow, the location of works, housing areas, and road and rail facilities, together with the protection of the older towns and villages such as Flint and Howaden, included in the area. It is a skilfully devised and well thought out scheme, which should prevent the spoiling of a large tract of country by miscellaneous and casual methods of development.

In Stratford-on-Avon Professor Abercrombie has had a very different problem, that of the development of one of England's historic localities associated with the memories of the greatest figure in the literature of a race. But Stratford is not only connected with the historic past; it is now a rapidly growing and prosperous modern town. It has been necessary to show how some further developments could be obtained without detriment to the preservation of the historic and traditional aspect of Stratford. The subject is dealt with under various heads: The Conservative Aspect of the Problem, the Progressive Aspect of the Problem, the Requirements of a Town Planning Scheme for Stratford, the Use of Area included in the Scheme, and the Social Aspect of the Problem.

It is a subject which could only be treated with success by an accomplished architect not only versed in the science of town planning, but with a keen eye for æsthetic and traditional aspects, and the authors have achieved a noteworthy success.

The book is admirably illustrated by views of Stratford which will convince those who do not know it of the value of the town from an æsthetic standpoint.

New Catalogues.

Messrs. The Haunchwood Brick and Tile Co., Ltd., of Nuneaton, send us their illustrated catalogue showing designs of their bricks and tiles. The company are one of the largest if not the largest manufacturers of blue bricks, and may justly claim that there is not a better blue brick upon the market than those turned out from their works.

The firm manufacture also red and buff bricks, sanitary pipes and fittings, terra cotta and red chimney pots, ridge tiles and finials, hollow bricks, etc.

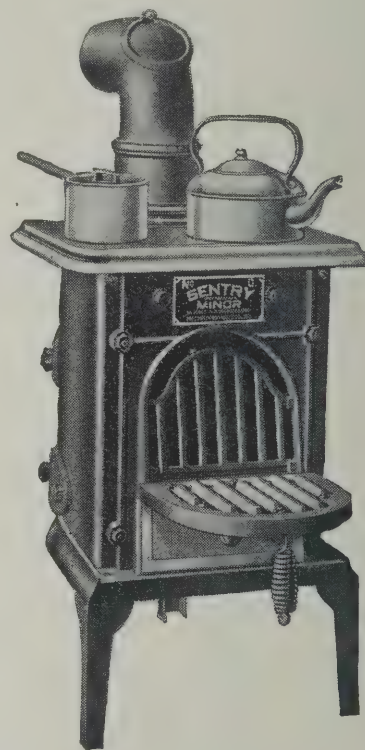
Several pages are devoted to examples of flooring tiles of special design and reproduced in colours. Each article illustrated is numbered, thus making it simple to specify and order.

Opportunity will be found to see the quality of this firm's manufacture as they are exhibiting at the forthcoming Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia.

For many years "The Rosemary" roofing tiles have enjoyed a reputation, and have been in request. As proof that this demand has been a steadily increasing one the company, Messrs. the G. W. Lewis Tileries, Ltd., of Stockingford, Nuneaton, announce in their new catalogue just to hand that their sales during the past two years total fifty million tiles; this we would suggest is practical proof of the growing popularity of rosemary tiles, which can be obtained in various shades. Deep D Shade is a bright red tile of very pleasing colour. Deepest E Shade is a similar colour, but has a slight tinge on the tail end, thus giving a toning effect to the roof. "Brindle Shade" is a tile which would give a delightful effect to a brindled roof. No. 5 Shade is recommended for roofs where stucco work is adopted. Mottled E Shade is of a rich deep colour, reddish brown, and Mottled F Shade is somewhat similar, but of a warmer tone. A number of illustrations are devoted to combinations of these colours, showing very attractive treatment. Other illustrations give examples of rustic hand-made tiles, and as all are produced in colour the catalogue should be extremely useful in making a selection for work in town or country. The company are exhibiting at the forthcoming Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia in April next.

Trade Notes.

In order to meet the rapidly extending demand for a small size of independent hot-water boiler suitable for operating with the 25 or 30 gallon hot-water cylinder usually found in the smallest houses, Messrs. Wood, Russell & Co., 34 Oxford Street, London, W.1, have just brought out a new small boiler which they call their "Sentry Minor" No. 0. This boiler provides all the features which are now identified with the name of "Sentry," namely, large hot-plate for cooking, large mica window in furnace door, the latter being of the fall-down type for use as a trivet, and a large enough fuel capacity for an all-night run without attention.



Our illustration shows the "Sentry Minor" No. 0 on base and legs, the latter having been provided to raise the boiler to a more workable height for cooking purposes, and, supplied in cast iron as illustrated, the boiler sells for £9 10s., and the base and legs 15s. extra, delivered and packed free to the nearest railway station.

Coupled to a 30-gallon hot-water cylinder or tank, this boiler will provide, at a maximum, three 20-gallon hot baths in the hour.

Where it is necessary for the fire to be left unattended for exceptionally long periods a loose hopper for an extra charge of fuel can be supplied.

This boiler burns coke, anthracite or patent fuels, and will also consume all the combustible domestic refuse.

Boyle's latest Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilators have been applied to "Carn Brae" School, Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, Kent. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Legal.

Before Mr. Justice Russell, in the Chancery Courts on Tuesday of last week, was heard an action by Major & Company, Ltd. (proprietors of "Solignum") v. Hill.

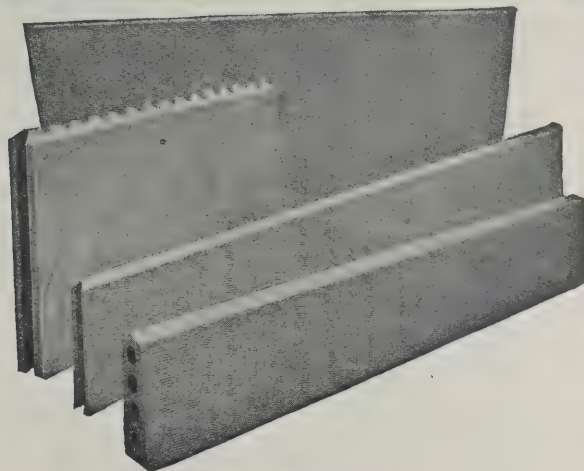
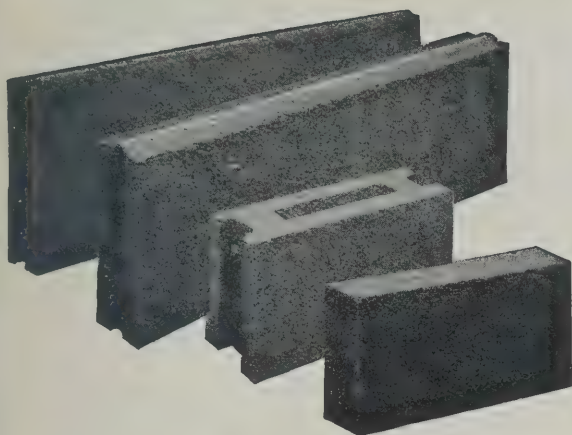
Mr. Bischof, for the plaintiffs, in the course of a speech, asked for an injunction to prevent the defendants passing off a liquid under the name of "Solignum." "Solignum," he continued, "is a very highly developed liquid for the preservation of wood against all forms of decay, and it is now extremely well known in connection with the Death Watch Beetle which has been found destroying old buildings. In fact, in new buildings, such as Bush House, they are having the wood treated with 'Solignum' during the course of erection."

Mr. Justice Russell granted an injunction with costs for the plaintiffs.

Stolen Mail.

Owing to the mails which were delivered at our head office, Essex Wharf, Canning Town, E.16, on Saturday afternoon and evening (February 2) having been stolen, will our friends who sent us communications which would arrive at that time repeat them if necessary?—J. H. SANKEY AND SON, LTD.

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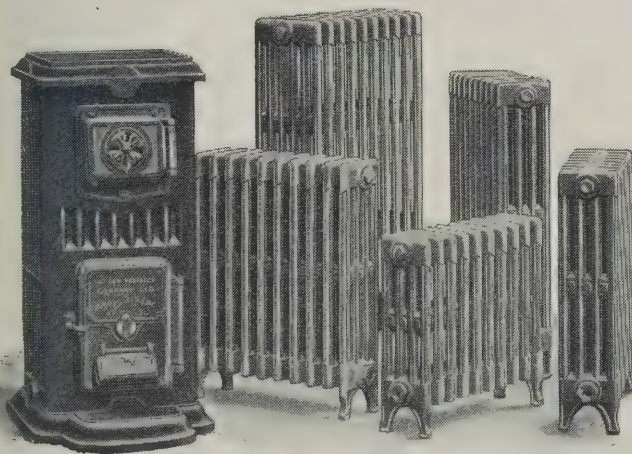
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Housing.



GOODEN CRESCENT ROYAL AIRCRAFT FACTORY, FARNBOROUGH. HOUSING SCHEME, COVE.
R. J. ALLISON, Principal Architect, H.M. Office of Works.

North of England.

Messrs. Marshall & Tweedy, architects, of 54 Grey Street, Newcastle, have prepared plans for the development of Woodlands Park Estate near Gosforth Park, Newcastle. Thirty acres have been under their care and they propose to erect semi-detached bungalows, twelve to an acre. Plots of land will adjoin each house and the purchasers will be able to have their

special individual ideas incorporated in the plans. The bungalows will have six or seven rooms each. Four houses are to be built in Church Lane, Ferryhill. Twenty-four houses are to be erected by the Chilton Building Estate at Chilton. The necessary plans have been passed by the Sedgfield Rural District Council.

Building operations will be started at an early date on 50 subsidy houses at Annfield Plain. The Urban District Council



ROE GREEN VILLAGE, KINGSBURY. Sir FRANK BAINES, C.B.E., M.V.O., Principal Architect, H.M. Office of Works.



BRITANNIC HOUSE, E.C.2 (Moorgate Front).
Architect:
Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

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have received the Ministry of Health's permission to borrow £3,800 for the payment of the £75 subsidy in connection with these fifty houses.

Permission to raise by way of a loan £19,303 for the purposes of house building has been received by the Auckland Rural District Council, who desire to erect a number of houses at Coundon.

The Ellesmere Port Urban District Council surveyor has been instructed to prepare a layout scheme for the erection of houses. It has been mentioned that £100,000 would cover the housing needs of the locality.

The Corporation of Gateshead propose to proceed with the erection of a further 100 houses.

The Ministry of Health has granted the Barnsley Corporation permission to erect a further hundred houses.

Mr. E. Dennis, architect, of Blackpool, has designed the plans for 100 houses to be erected on Watson's Lane estate.

The Blaydon Urban District Council have decided to approach the Ministry of Health with a housing scheme which is urgently needed. The scheme involves the erection of some 600 houses within the next twelve months; 400 of these would be situated in Blaydon, 100 in Winlaton, and the remaining hundred distributed over the surrounding district. The Council have appointed a deputation to meet the directors of the Bleach Green Estate Co., Winlaton, with a view to purchasing the estate as a site for the main part of this housing scheme.

The Carlisle Corporation propose to construct 50 concrete bungalows.

About 150 houses will complete the Walker housing scheme which is being built by the Newcastle-on-Tyne Corporation.

The Town Council of Wallsend have decided to erect a further 36 houses by direct labour.

One hundred temporary houses are to be erected at Bradford by the Corporation Housing Committee.

Twenty houses are to be built at Brotherton, near Pontefract. An application is to be sent to the Ministry of Health by the Gosforth Urban District Council for permission to borrow £14,000 for the erection of 30 houses on the Coxlodge housing scheme.

A large house-building scheme is being started with the erection of 20 houses in Barnburgh Lane, Bolton-on-Dearne. Seven pairs of houses are being built by the Bost Rural District Council.

Midlands.

The City of Lincoln Corporation Housing Committee have approved of a housing scheme whereby the Corporation will erect 150 houses and another 150 houses will be erected by private enterprise.

The local Derby builders are to be invited by the Corporation Housing Committee to submit tenders for the erection of 46 parlour-type houses and 82 non-parlour type houses.

Layout plans have been prepared to accommodate 300 houses at Dudley, Seaton Burn, Annitsford, and Wideopen by the Weetslade Urban District Council, who propose to submit the same to the Ministry of Health for approval.

At Burton-on-Trent two authorities are each erecting 48 houses. The Corporation has received the Ministry of Health's approval to their scheme, and the Housing Committee are seeking that authority's sanction and the co-operation of the Town Council for theirs.

An estate at Charlesworth has been laid out with the approval of the Glossop Dale Rural Council. The plan permits for the erection of 200 houses, and provision has been made for the possibility of a further 200 houses in addition. The Ministry of Health has consented to the Council subsidising 100 houses as a first instalment of the 250 applications received by the Council.

Conisborough Urban District Council are purchasing an additional 16 acres of land for the completion of their housing scheme.

South and West of England.

The Ministry of Health has granted the Urban District Council of Grays permission to erect a further 50 workmen's houses.

The Urban District Council of Hayward's Heath have instructed their surveyor to prepare the necessary levels, etc., at the New England Road site for not more than 50 further houses which the Housing Committee are prepared to erect.

The Urban District Council of Dorking have decided to purchase the site originally selected for their new housing scheme. The site is situated on the Dendy Estate.

The Epsom Rural District Council propose to apply to the Ministry of Health for permission to erect 300 houses in the district.

The Plymouth Corporation propose to proceed with the erection of houses on site No. 2. About 200-250 plots have been measured out on this site, and tenders will shortly be invited for the erection of the houses.

Scotland.

The Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., recently submitted plans to the Dean of Guild Court for the erection of a block of four flatted houses at Bankside at an estimated cost of £1,800. The plans have been approved by the Court and we anticipate that building operations will be started forthwith.

Twelve houses are to be erected at Ballachulish by the Lorn District Committee at a cost of £6,800.

Wales.

The Merthyr Corporation Housing Committee propose to erect 150 concrete dwellings by unskilled labour, and 80 brick houses. The work is to be started in the early spring, and it is estimated that £100,000 will about cover the total cost of the whole scheme.

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What is a Profiteer ?

We are likely to hear a good deal more, not of "sealing wax and kings," but of rings, combines and profiteers. It is, therefore, reasonable that we should try to define the meaning of the word profiteer. To say that a profiteer is one who makes profits will not suffice, for it is obvious that every man's effort in life is to make a profit out of his money or his mental or bodily efforts. No one would pay a man twenty shillings to work if what he produced could only be sold for twenty shillings any more than a sane man would endeavour to ladle out water with a sieve. Profiteering obviously means the endeavouring to secure a greater surplus than some third person or persons consider fair and reasonable, which is a somewhat indefinite quantity. Are we to assume that to make 5 per cent. or 10 per cent. is justifiable, while to make 15 per cent. or 20 per cent. is wrong ; or are we to say that a man, whatever his qualifications are, may make a lump sum profit of so many pounds, and no more ?

But we may try to assume a definite standpoint from which we may argue by stating that certain natural products are necessary for life, and are only obtainable in certain areas in limited amounts, and that it is fair to prevent the holders of such limited and necessary supplies from exploiting the public and holding them up to ransom. Such products may be said to include coal and wheat, which in any short period of time are limited in amount, and both are almost absolutely essential for all of us.

We admit this, and can say without reservation that if an absolute combine controlled either corn or coal and raised the selling price by 50 per cent., the community would have a very clear case for interference. But the price of bread only partly depends on that of corn, and includes the baker's, miller's and middleman's charges for milling, baking and selling. Are we justified in controlling and limiting these ? We hold we are not, because none of them is essential. We can, if we choose, buy our own corn, and grind and bake our own flour, and so dispense with the aid of those who would charge unduly for their services, or we can organise more efficient and less costly methods to take their place.

We come to the so-called rings and combines of the building trade, and the same reasoning will hold. A great increase of prices, especially in what are termed light castings, has been complained of, but when these are inquired into two facts emerge : the first, that the cost of both labour and coal employed is now far heavier than in the past ; the second, that for a long period before the war the industry was carried on at cost price, or a little over cost price, and manufacturers are now better organised and are adding a reasonable working profit, which does not exceed 10 per cent.

The cost of bricks is largely made up of that of coal, labour and freight, and all these items are heavier than in the pre-war period. Tiles are similarly affected, while the price of slates partly depends on the cost of labour and freight.

If on investigation it can be shown that, making allowance for all additions, those who supply these goods are making great profits, it would inevitably lead keen business men to open up fresh works in order to supply a profitable market.

Alternatively, it would be quite reasonable for any Government—inspired, as all Governments are, by a burning altruism—to advance capital to those who were willing to supply the public with what it needs on the understanding that accounts should be audited and profits limited.

But to say that the State is justified in interfering with men of any calling whose enterprise has built up a business simply because it wishes to enable people to reap where they have not sown is in our view to make out a case for legalised robbery.

If unreasonable profits are being made—which we regard as wholly improbable—the mere suggestion of alternative action involving competition would probably lead to an immediate lowering of prices.

But in dealing with profiteering, what shall we say of labour ? It is generally admitted that, though the rates of wages are much higher than they were in the past, the bricklayer who years ago laid 800 to 1,000 bricks in a day's work now lays on an average something which we may assume to be half that number. If, therefore, we are to say that the present wages of a bricklayer are only what he requires to live on, it is apparent that to get at their real value to the employer they must be doubled to make a fair comparison. It is this lowering of output which is indisputably the main cause of the great increase of cost in our chief commodities. And if it is profiteering to charge more than a certain percentage on manufactured articles, it is surely profiteering to ask a full day's wage for work that could be done in a far shorter time.

We take the case of the bricklayer because it is more easily checked and compared than the output of other trades, but similar conditions largely obtain throughout the ranks of skilled labour.

No one would claim that we should be justified in attempting to make labour produce more than it chooses, for this would infringe the workers' rights, and in a similar manner we hold that it would be utterly unfair and unjust, and an outrage on the principles of English justice, to attempt to limit the profits an employer may make, while in addition 4s. 6d. in the £ of these profits are surrendered to the State in the form of income tax.

But if an inquiry is demanded into rings and combines, we hold that it must be extended to the world of labour, for without such inclusion the inquiry would be as incomplete as a legal one in which one party alone was heard.

We live in an uncomfortable world mainly because, through wages having been largely increased, the cost of everything necessary, of which wages are a component part, has been also increased, and because an illusory conviction very widely obtains that state-

craft can eliminate the inevitable result of natural laws, the operation of which is imprisoning us in confines the limitations of which distress us.

The operatives in the building trades and the futile measures of politicians have produced the housing shortage, but the building trades operatives have not been more ignorant and misguided than those of other callings.

Capitalists have no doubt made their mistakes, but whatever they have been, the most serious of all has been the optimism with which men whose education should have taught them better have imagined that social legislation, doles, and subsidies could cure the evils from which we suffer, or even mitigate them. The greatest good that any Government can do to the subjects of any State is to enforce law and order, and administer justice as economically as possible, leaving other and more complicated issues to the inevitable action of natural laws, and sooner or later the mists of false sentiment and fallacious hypothesis which veil these cardinal truths will be dispelled.

Labour in the building trades has hitherto stoutly opposed any system which would automatically encourage production, and though there are real objections to a system of piece-work, there are quite as great objections to the present system of paying by time alone.

A modification of both systems is what is really necessary, for at present the interests of the enterprising man are sacrificed to maintain the slackers,

which is little more reasonable than it would be for the architects of a town to pool their fees and then divide them equally. But unless the unions take up this question in a different spirit from that they have hitherto displayed, the time must come when they will be abolished as impossible parts of the industrial system. The only means by which wages can be increased and hours shortened without detriment to commercial prosperity is by the invention of methods which increase production, and it is the inventors of such processes who are the chief benefactors of mankind, conferring on it benefits which are out of all proportion to any personal gain they may secure for themselves.

Our attitude towards the capitalist, the inventor and the millionaire should in reality be that of the guide in an Italian city who, when asked whether he liked the German tourists, said: "English, French or German, what does it matter? When I see a foreigner go by, I say, 'There goes part of my income,' for in the nature of things, neither inventor, capitalist nor millionaire can keep the whole of the results of their efforts, which very largely go to creating employment and opportunity for others, and in creating which opportunities does not require a number of State officials whose services are paid for by the taxpayers. If we had to say whether the inventor of the bicycle or telephone or the originator of the League of Nations had conferred most benefits on mankind few would be in doubt.

Our Illustrations.

HOUSES AT SCHULS, LOWER ENGADINE. From photographs by ALBERT STEINER.

THE PLANTA HOUSE, ZUOZ: DETAIL OF STAIRS. From photographs by ALBERT STEINER.

TOP FARM, WILLERSEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. Measured and Drawn by WILLIAM T. BENSLYN.

Notes and Comments.

The R.I.B.A. Prizes.

In his address to students at the R.I.B.A. Mr. Gotch referred to the falling off in the quality of the work submitted and speculated on its causes. We think he is quite correct in assuming that the student of to-day grudges the time and effort required for the preparation of the designs to be submitted. In years gone by they were the event of the year and with the Academy gold medal almost the only things which students had to compete for. Now they are only one of many such subjects, the chief blue ribbon of the profession having become the Prix de Rome with the privileges and kudos which it brings with it. In addition, there are the numerous prizes and smaller competitions of the various schools of architecture all over the country, for which shorter periods of work are required. The falling off of competition for the Pugin Studentship is very easily understood, for, unfortunately, few students now do much sketching, and fewer still much measuring. On the other hand, the schools are now great organisations with extended curricula and occupy the student's whole time, providing him—at least, in the case of the Association—with a little Latin Quarter of his own, in which he lives, moves and has his being. It is probably too early by some years to see the result of the two methods or to judge what modifications may be needed.

Unauthentic Utterances.

From a slim volume of verse by Mr. Delissa Joseph, we reprint a sonnet (revised) entitled "Higher Buildings":—

"Earth has not anything to show more fair
Than a sky-scraper soaring out of ken.
London lacks such: The bye-law poisoned air
Forbids their growth; yet surely we have men—

Red-blooded men with chests complete with hair—
Could put it over Eliel Saarinen.

It would be good to say off-hand 'That's mine!

A little thing I did for Bloggs and Hoare,

The Brewers; it has mighty thirty-four
Storeys.' And when they murmur 'Fine! dam fine!'

You say, 'Such things are simple to design.

One stops the tripe about the second floor,

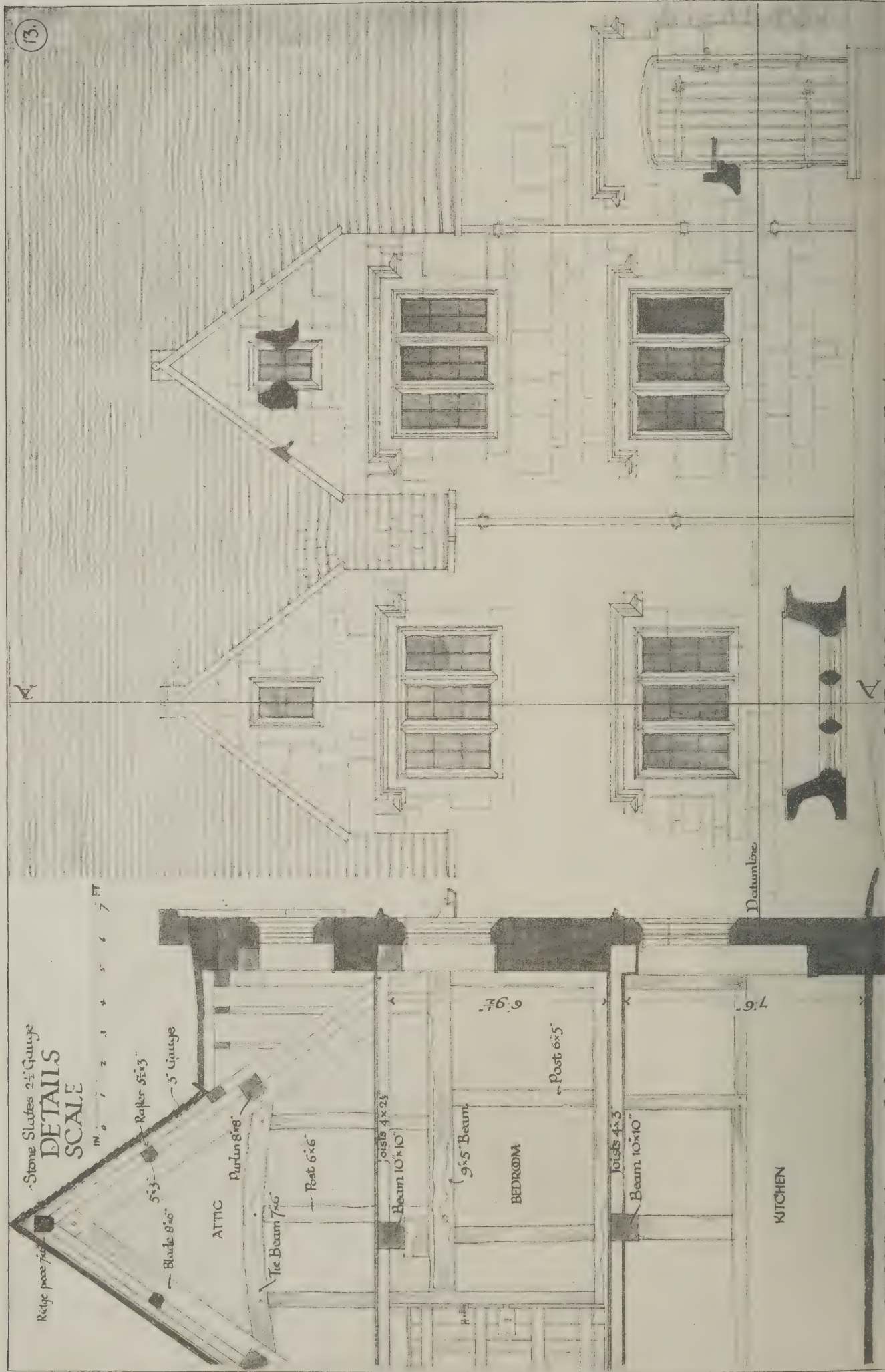
Then sheer to cornice where one sticks some more.

Mass is the stuff to give 'em; mass and lime?'"

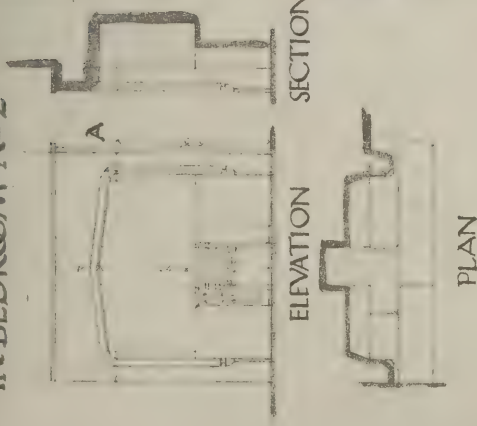
We quote the above from "Harlequinade," as we think it very good. Energy is sometimes amazing, and it is wonderful that Mr. Delissa Joseph does not weary of the ill success of his missionary efforts in aid of much higher buildings in London.

The Institute and Housing.

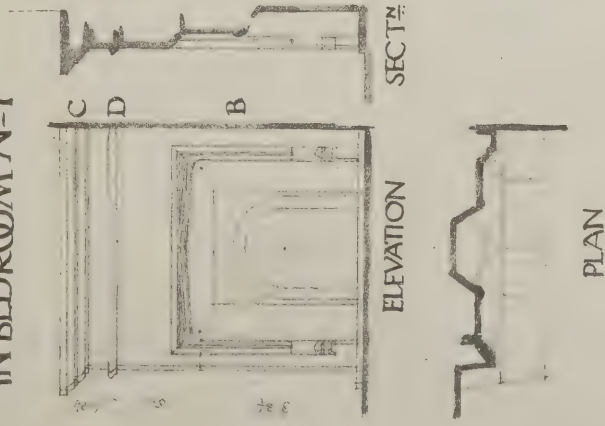
The R.I.B.A. have issued a circular on the housing question which we give in another place. It is rather late in its appearance, as the question has been given great prominence for the past ten years and has engaged the attention of several Governments and been dealt with in many measures. The conclusions we have come to are not those expressed in the circular, as we hold that the shortage, of which the main cause was the legislation of 1910, would be gradually done away with by the repeal of all restrictive legislation coupled with the advance of money to those desiring to build on the easiest terms consistent with sound finance, together with the relief of profits derived from rents from income tax and the remission of rates. As to sites, the compulsory extension of the provisions of the Housing and Town Planning Act to the whole country would provide sites everywhere, as it



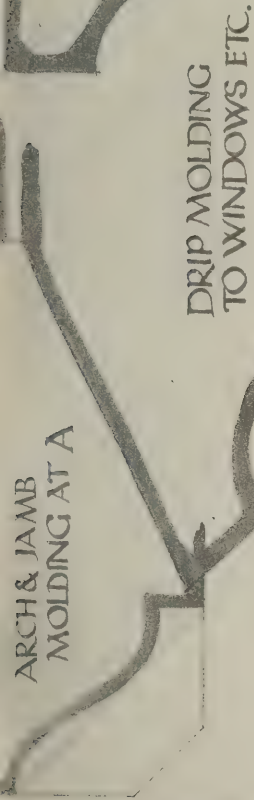
CHIMNEY PIECE
IN BEDROOM No2



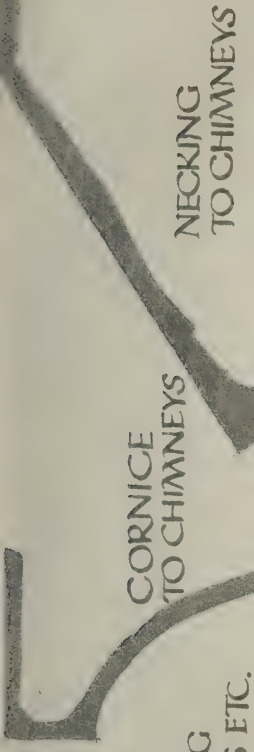
CHIMNEY PIECE
IN BEDROOM No1



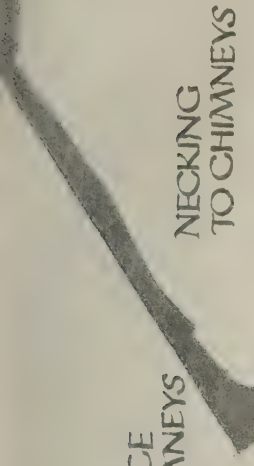
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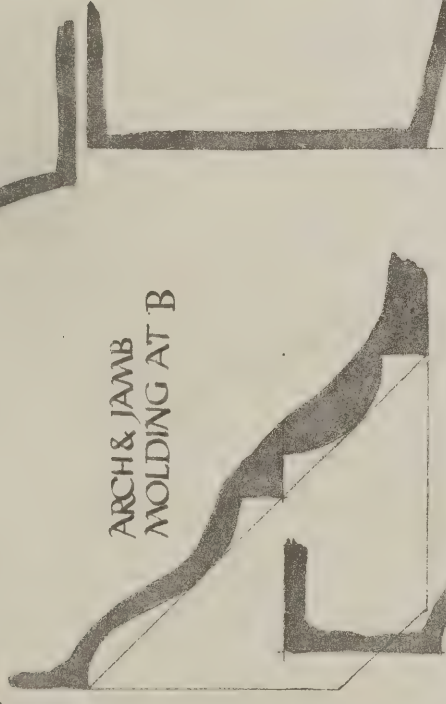
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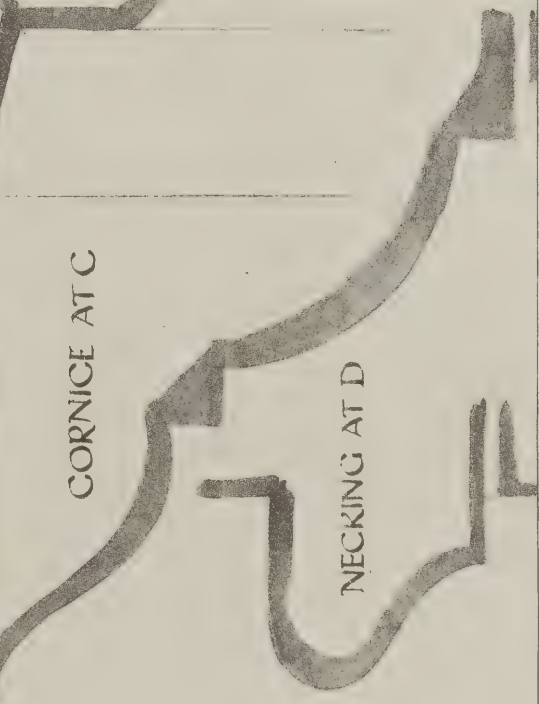
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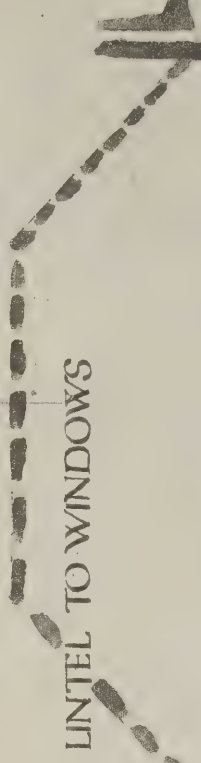
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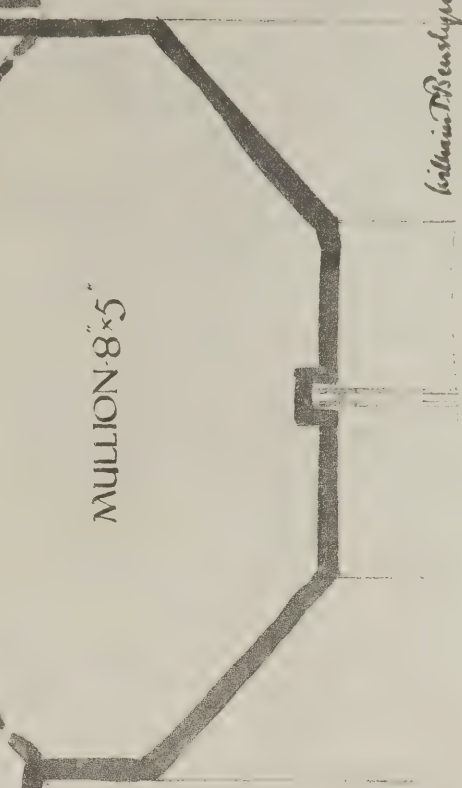
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MULLION 8" x 5"



William T Benslyn

MOLDINGS

"INK-PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C.3.

DETAILS AND MOLDINGS, TOP FARM, WILLERSEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

MEASURED AND DRAWN BY WILLIAM T. BENSLYN.

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HOUSES AT SCHULS, LOWER ENGADINE.

"INK-PHOTO," W. BROWN & CO. LTD LONDON E.C.3



INK-PHOTO: WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.4.

THE PLANTA HOUSE, ZUOZ. DETAIL OF STAIRS.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY ALBERT STEINER, ST. MORITZ, ENGADINE.

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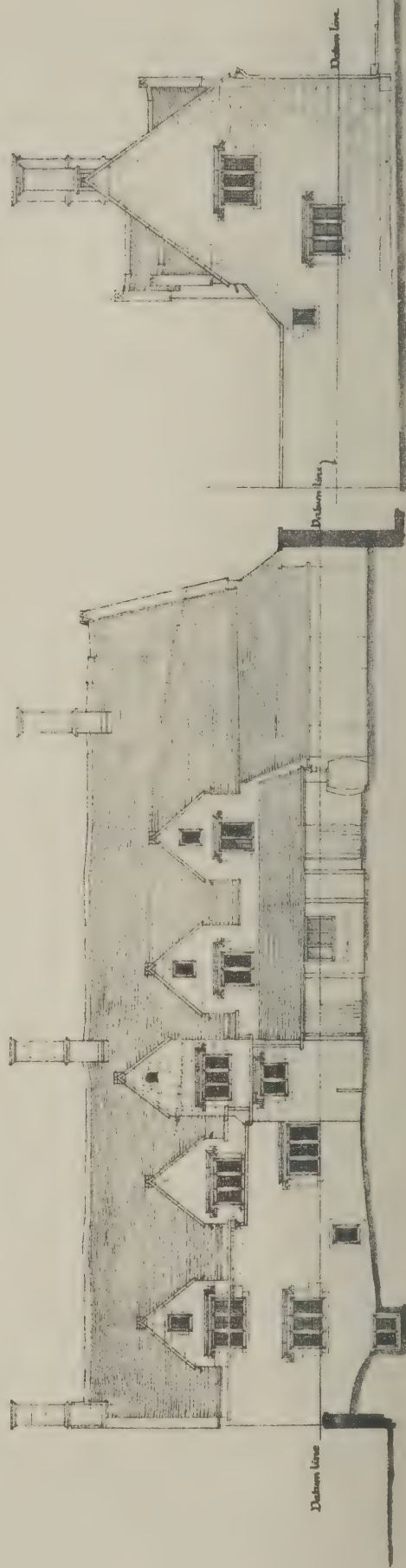
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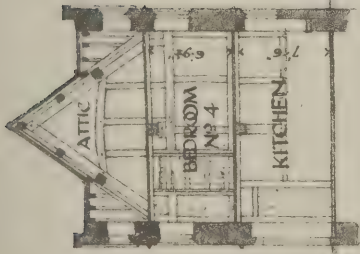
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SOUTH ELEVATION

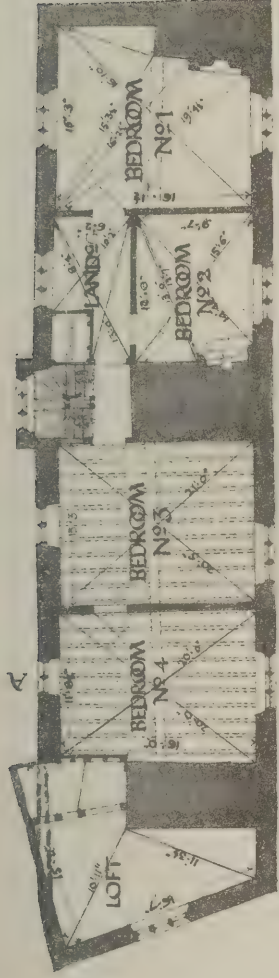


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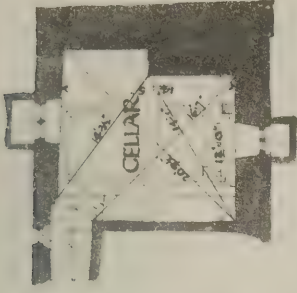
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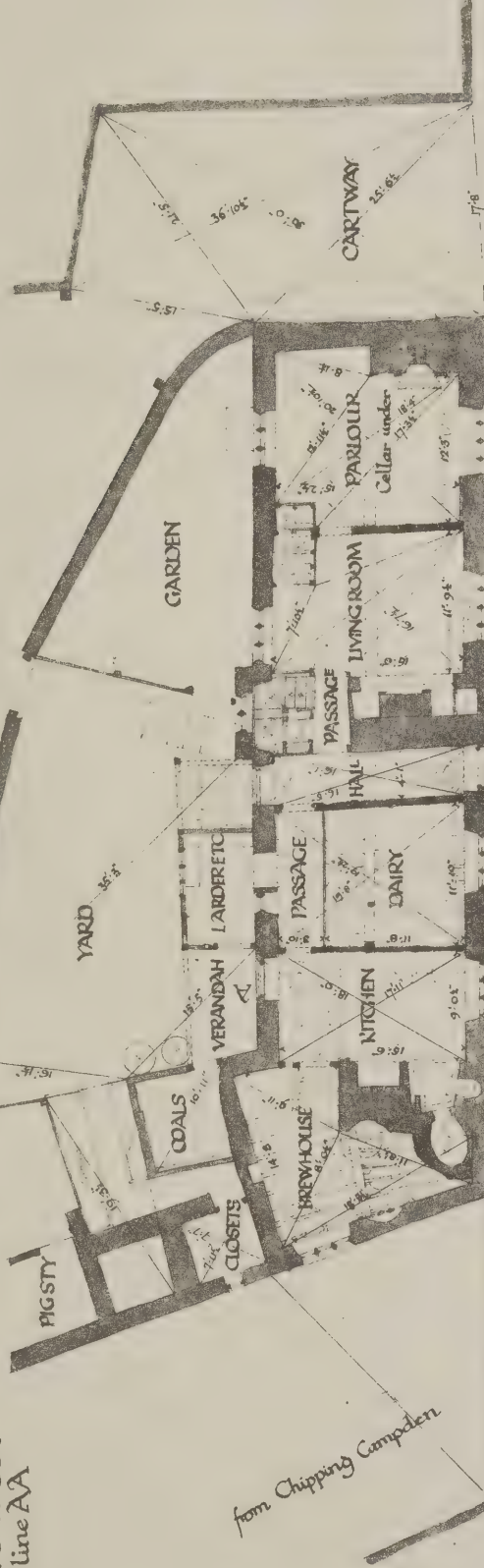
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FIRST FLOOR PLAN



CELLAR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

This Farm was built circa 1575-1600 A.D. it was probably originally the MANOR FARM. The external walls and internal ones where fireplaces are of the local yellow Cotswold stone, the other internal walls are of timber framing, the roof is covered with stone slates

These DRAWINGS were made whilst staying in the house Sept. 1906. The dimensions were plotted and verified on the spot. The survey lines are in brown, the building has bulged thro' the thrust of the timber framing, there are few right angles in this building

→ to Broadway

20 feet

50

40

30

20

10

0

5

10

15

20

25

30

William T. Benslyn

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involves, among other things, the setting apart of suitable areas for such purposes. This would also govern prices for land, which may be divided into 12 plots to an acre, is suitable for housing and not other purposes, and would, by the operation of the law of supply and demand, be sold for prices which were reasonable for that end. We do not say that the policy we have outlined would be popular at the moment, but we are convinced that it is the only one which is likely to stand the test of time and experience, and that we shall revert to it sooner or later when more ambitious schemes have failed.

Labour and Wealth.

We are sometimes surprised that the working man should have any objection to the accumulation of great wealth by individuals for this reason. If a man makes £1,000 a year he will in many cases spend the whole of it on his immediate needs or, we will say, the luxuries he desires; but if a man makes £100,000 a year he would, in very few cases, spend £274 a day on his wants or luxuries, and in all probability he would "do himself" very well on a quarter, or even less, of the income he makes. Where is the surplus spent or employed? In most cases it would be invested either in an existing business or in a new one, and in either of these cases a great proportion of the money so used would go to create employment, out of which labour gets its share. More than this, if bad times come it is precisely the business of such a man which can for the longest time afford to pay the best rates for labour. We, therefore, should expect that the persons who would regard the wealthy as an inconvenient rival and potential enemy would not be the working classes, who gain by his activities, but the intermediate class, which, in many cases, find his rivalry formidable. That they do not raise an outcry against such men is probably due to their recognition that a man's right to his own is a good principle for all. Be this as it may, we hold that logically the wealthy should meet with support rather than opposition from labour, and that the accumulation of great possessions in single hands should be regarded with tolerance rather than with dislike. But, of course, were it ever proved that the State could run great businesses with the same success as individuals we should none of us have any reasonable ground for objecting to Socialism; but that proposition has not yet been proved, and does not seem likely to be established.

The R.A. Exhibition.

The sending-in day for the R.A. Summer Exhibitions are as follows: Water-colours, Pastels, Miniatures, Black and White Drawings, Engravings and Architectural Drawings, Friday, March 28th; Oil Paintings, Saturday, March 29, and Monday, March 31; Sculpture, Tuesday, April 1. Hours for the reception of work, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., except Saturday, March 29, 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. We shall be glad, as previously, to receive and send in architectural drawings sent to us for that purpose.

Slum Areas in London.

Lieut.-Col. Cecil B. Levita, the chairman of the L.C.C. Housing Committee, in the course of his most interesting lecture at the London Society on February 8 said that:—

Evidently the total clearance of an insanitary area, under such difficulties as I have outlined, must be a lengthy matter. It is estimated that the larger areas require some ten years' work in addition to the time absorbed by legal formalities, which are both complicated and prolonged. It is impossible to do more generally than clear the site by sections and, by decanting groups of inhabitants, prepare locations for tenements in succession. This method of process is not only slow, but extremely costly. In the past few years the approximate average price per room provided in a new tenement, for building alone, exclusive of other charges, has reached the sum of £375. In the most recent block (Pellew House, on the Collingwood Estate) the estimated cost per habitable room has fallen to £145. In July, 1914, the figure was less than £100.

In connection with cost of building it may be stated that all items are roundly made up of labour 45 per cent., materials 50 per cent., and profit 5 per cent. If we examine further, seeing that a considerable part of the cost of all materials is due to labour, it will be found that between 80 and 90 per cent. of the total costs of a building may be ascribed to labour. I may here remark that the shortage of skilled labour in the building trade seriously hampers everywhere the provision of new housing accommodation. This shortage, and unfortunately

an increasing shortage, has been known to exist since the termination of the war; and it is regrettable that steps have not been taken by those concerned to overcome it. The building industry to-day is probably at least 25 per cent. weaker than in pre-war days, and it is not very encouraging to note that the numerical strength of the operatives engaged in this great industry has decreased by 50,000 in the last twelve months. The working classes generally, and slum dwellers in particular, are the greatest sufferers by reason of the various restrictive actions of the building trades unions.

Lieut.-Col. Levita has had very great experience, and it is interesting to note that his conclusions are those of everyone who has studied the housing question—viz., that the action of the unions is the great cause of the congestion which has taken place. We may spend money like water, but until that attitude is changed we shall effect little. The unions have either to be changed or broken up. To spend public money until they are is to waste it.

Book Review.

"The Smaller House." The Architectural Press, 27 Tothill Street, Westminster. £1 5s. net.

This is an interesting collection of the smaller work done by a number of architects since the war and contains work by over 40 men, including most of the better known domestic architects of the day. We cannot say that any very marked differences exist between pre-war and post-war architectural design, save that generally the necessity for economy is more marked. The large hall and staircase tend to disappear as their elimination effects a saving and reduces cost. A decided impulse has also been given to the use of one large sitting room, with a small dining room or even a dining annexe, in lieu of the separate sitting rooms of the past, and in the kitchen there is a marked tendency to eliminate a separate scullery by combining it with the kitchen wherever possible, giving a small independent sitting room for servants. This, with the use of improved cooking appliances, will no doubt be a growing tendency. Service difficulties and the housing shortage would unquestionably have produced another and greater modification. We refer to the amalgamation of a house with a service cottage or annexe in which a man and his wife could live independently while supplying service requirements. We believe this last type will be widely adopted in the future wherever its first cost does not render it impossible, as it seems the most effective way by which domestic difficulties can be overcome.

The most interesting of the houses illustrated are those designed by Mr. Williams Clough Ellis, Mr. Louis de Soissons, Mr. Basil Oliver and Mr. Robert Atkinson, whose work is always pleasantly and unaffectedly simple and refined.

We regret the omission of any examples of Mr. Baillie-Scott's work, as he is not second to Sir Edwin Lutyens where less ambitious themes are concerned. He knows enough of the old English vernacular of building to be able to give us admirably Georgian work, which is unaffected and unspoiled by an academic rendering, while in his more picturesque manner his work is always full of delight. He treads with assured footsteps where others are making tentative efforts and has made for himself a reputation which will increase and endure.

Mr. Kenneth Cross gives an excellent essay on the planning and design of bungalows, a subject to which he has given much attention, and this is illustrated by some good examples of his work designed in a simple Georgian vein.

The book, like others produced by the firm, is well illustrated and produced and will be found by many to be both an interesting and useful record.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

FEBRUARY 14, 1874.

MR. SEDDON ON CONTINENTAL TRAVEL.

SIR,—My ever fluent and amusing old friend Mr. Seddon is pleased to make himself very merry over me in your last issue. Of course we could scarcely expect him to be scrupulously accurate in respect of his facts; but one of these affords to me as much surprise as it may possibly have done to some of your readers. He has it on the best authority that I have never set foot upon the Continent. By this I perceive that other people can joke him at least as successfully as he can joke me. At any rate, it may interest him now to know that if, as he tells us, he has seen a great deal, I too have seen a little. It is possible, also, that he may have profited less, and I more. For there is this difference between us—on entering any strange city in search of a new sensation in architecture, I ask for the *Champs Elysées*, he for the *Morgue*.

Yours obediently,
ROBERT KERR.

Picturesque Villages of the Engadine.

H. A. J. Lamb, A.R.I.B.A.



OLD CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA, PONTRESINA.

The Engadine, or Valley of the Upper Inn, is roughly 60 miles long, and it would be difficult to find another area in Switzerland offering so many attractions to suit all tastes. Its mountaineering and winter sport facilities are, of course, well known; besides this there is plenty to interest the most enthusiastic sightseer, summer or winter. Botanists, archæologists, or architects will



PONTRESINA, UPPER ENGADINE.

find, probably, their visit all too short to collect and study all that there is to be seen; whilst those in search of health cannot fail to be benefited by the pure mountain air, or by enjoying the healing properties of the chalybeate springs at St. Moritz Bad or at the resorts of Tarasp, Schuls and Vulpera, famous for their Lucius, Emerita and Bonifacius springs impregnated with salt and sulphate of soda. There is certainly no lack of accommodation; in fact, some of the villages are practically composed of hotels and boarding houses. For example, St. Moritz Bad and Dorf have between them an hotel accommodation of 5,660 beds, whereas Pontresina, a comparatively small village, has 1,915.

A few notes of some of the most picturesque villages may be of interest.



CHURCH OF ST. GIAN, ENGADINE.

Pontresina, 5,915 ft., beautifully situated at the end of the Roseg Valley, has one long straggling main street paved with cobbles, and barely wide enough for two carriages to pass. The eastern end of the village has some extremely picturesque old houses, behind which stands the old church of Santa Maria, dating from 1150. The interior of the apse is brilliantly painted with crude frescoes of the Apostles. The pine roof dates from 1497, and is decorated with brightly coloured patterns in varying colours, with bosses bearing the emblem of the Canton de Grisons, a black goat. Over the doorway is a curious painting of St. George slaying the Dragon.

The lower or western end of the village was burnt down in 1720. The church of St. Nicolo, with curious spire, built in 1477, and restored in 1640, has a finely carved classic door of that date, and in 1721 was re-roofed after the fire.

Two miles from Pontresina is the village of Celerina, practically adjoining the little village of Cresta, on the outskirts of which is the finish of the famous Cresta toboggan run, close by the early Gothic tower of the village church.

The quaint little church of St. Gian, standing on a mound between Pontresina and Celerina, will be noted; the roof of the taller tower has long since fallen in.

Two miles from Celerina is the well-known fashionable summer and winter resort of St. Moritz Dorf. At the



LEANING TOWER, ST. MORITZ DORF.

highest point, a conspicuous landmark, is the leaning tower, all that remains of the old church built in the 12th century, the nave being pulled down in 1573. It was also a pilgrim resort in the 15th century.



CHURCH OF CRASTA IN THE FEX VALLEY.

The Engadiner Museum of old Swiss furniture and the Museum containing the paintings of Giovanni Segantini are well worth visiting. Seven miles from St. Moritz, and overlooking the beautiful Lake of Sils, is the sheltered village of Sils Maria, containing many fine old houses,

roofed with rough stone slates, deep overhanging eaves and windows set back deeply in the thickness of the walls. From here a fine walk can be made up the richly pastured Fex Valley, famous for its rich profusion of wild flowers. Edelweiss grows in abundance here, more especially on the right-hand side of the Valley, which is known as Edelweissalden.

At the end of this valley is the Fex glacier; shortly before reaching this is the miniature church of Crasta, with its red roof tiles, white plastered walls and squat little belfry.

Unfortunately so many of the Swiss churches are kept locked during the week it is rarely that one is able to examine their interior while passing.

Samaden, about four miles from Pontresina, is the political capital of the Engadine, and the junction of the Rhaetian railway and the Electric railway to Tarasp Schuls. From here the valley runs in a north-westerly direction. Near Madulein, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Samaden, stands the ruined castle of Guardaval, on an almost perpendicular rock, built by Bishop Volkard in 1251 to protect the episcopal property in the neighbourhood, and according to tradition destroyed by Adam von Camagask.



CRASTA CHURCH, ENGADINE.

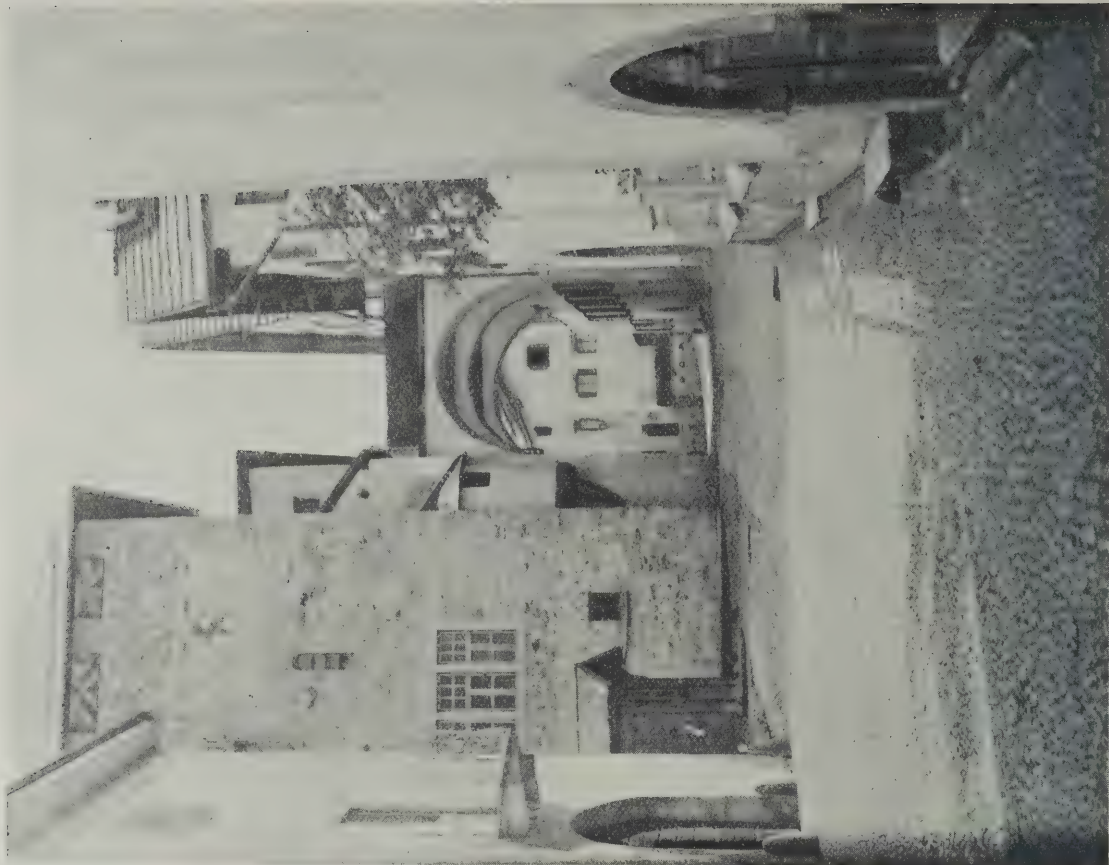
In the next village, Zuoz, the climate is milder, as it is sheltered from the cold winds sweeping down from Maloggia, at the head of the Upper Engadine Valley.

Zuoz was at one time the capital of the Upper Engadine, and is the native place of the Planta family, and the birthplace of Johann Travers, the Reformer, 1483.

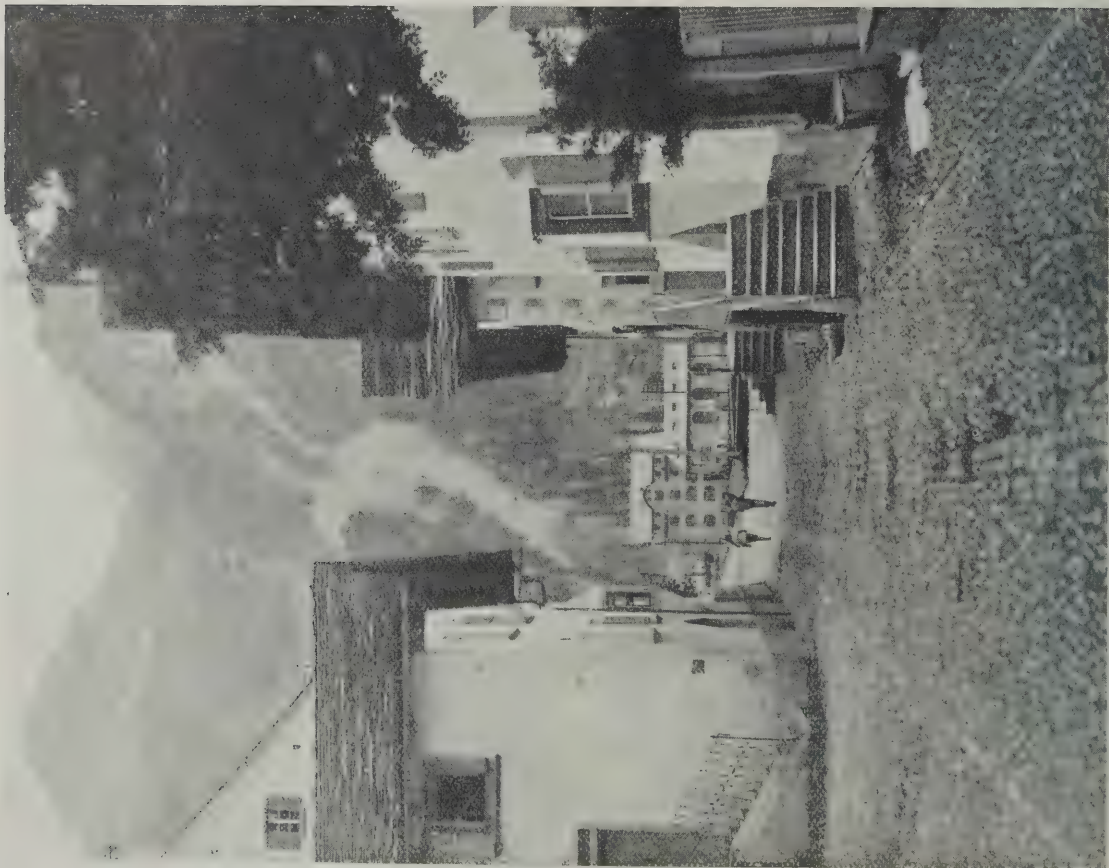
In the old tower, on the walls of which are painted the arms of the Canton, are some battle relics and instruments of torture.

Scams, $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles farther on, is the last Commune of the Upper Engadine and contains many old houses with curiously corbelled out walls. A few minutes' walk from here is the "Punt Ota," or stone bridge over the Inn, dividing the Upper and Lower Engadine; continuing over this bridge, the boundary of the Swiss National Park, within which area chamois, deer, etc., are rigidly preserved.

Schuls, $33\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Samaden, conveniently reached by the Electric Railway, terminating there, is the principal village of the Lower Engadine, occupying a splendid position above the river Inn.



MAIN STREET OF ZUOZ.



A CORNER OF SILS MARIA.

PICTURESQUE VILLAGES OF THE ENGADINE. H. A. J. LAMB, A.R.I.B.A.



MAIN STREET IN SCAMFS.

In lower Schuls there are some interesting specimens of architecture. Near by is Tarasp Castle, in a commanding position in the valley. The present building is not very old, the original castle being destroyed by fire after being struck by lightning in 1626. Tradition places its origin as among the early fortresses of the Romans. Prior to A.D. 1200 the castle and neighbouring land were under the rule of the Lords of Tarasp. Count Albrecht of Tyrol acquired it with surrounding land in 1239. In 1815 it was bought back by the Canton for the Commune of Tarasp.

Before leaving the Engadine, it is worth while paying a

visit to the sleepy old town of Poschiavo. Travelling by the Bernina railway from Pontresina, in the space of two hours or so, one passes from the ice fields of the Bernina glaciers to the luxuriant and almost tropical Valley of Poschiavo.

The drop of 5,000 feet or so is made by wonderfully engineered loops and gradients, down the mountain side, with an ever-changing view of Poschiavo and its lake far below.

On a height above the town stands the ruins of the castle of Oligati. The dirtiness and dilapidation of the inhabitants and buildings is very noticeable compared with the spotless cleanliness of the Swiss.

The people are, for the most part, Italian. Some of them are Protestant, and, owing to the jealousy of the Roman Catholics, their church is almost a fortress.

On the outskirts of the town stands the charming little church of Santa Maria, perched on a hill surrounded by four tall poplars. The Italian influence is very marked in the character of its architecture.

Correspondence.

Architecture and Advertising.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—I have noted in the Press of late that an important Conference of Advertisers is soon to be held in London, the American organisers of which state that advertising in this country is "still in its infancy," in consequence of which a huge advertising campaign is to be launched from one end of the country to the other.

I am strongly of opinion that should this be successful it will be at the expense of our few treasured possessions in the way of landscape, architecture, etc.

I for one certainly think that already we have far too many posters, and that the ever-increasing electric sky signs of the West End are vulgar and inartistic at night, whilst their appearance during the day, "sprawling right across architectural refinements" which are the product of years of study, is greatly to be deplored.

If, on the other hand, the advertisers really wish to improve English advertising, why not encourage really "artistic" posters, and, in lieu of our present garish night signs, "flood light" the buildings, as a few West End firms have done?

I feel sure that if the Conference follows something on these lines it will achieve success, produce a "Brighter London," and at the same time encourage an appreciation of architecture, which appears to be sadly lacking in this country at the present moment.—Yours, etc.,

SIDNEY H. LOWETH, A.R.I.B.A., etc.

Housing Definitions.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—With reference to the articles, "Housing Rumours" and "Housing Definitions," appearing in THE ARCHITECT, dated February 8, is it not a great pity that your paper should stoop to join in the petty bickering which is at present keeping building, especially house building, in a state bordering on stagnation?

That both Capital and Labour are at fault is a fact which only a very narrow-minded person will confute. Caustic comment only aggravates the situation. Imagine the effect of one of those very indiscreet articles upon a working-class reader!

Let us each concern ourselves with the beam in our own eye, and leave our brother to negotiate the mote from his own; it is the only "way out."—Yours respectfully,

J. P. MINTY.

27, Vernon Avenue, Raynes Park, S.W.20.

Mr. H. V. Lanchester is the architect for the proposed new municipal buildings for Stockton, and the site selected by the Corporation is that known as the Cattle Market site.

A new music pavilion is to be erected on the Eastbourne Pier. The pavilion will hold 2,000 persons and cost £20,000.

A band pavilion is to be erected at the eastern end of the Marine Gardens, Folkestone.

A new hall is to be erected in Gower, Middleton, the funds having been raised by the inhabitants of the villages of Middleton and Rosille.



SANTA MARIA, POSCHIAVO.

Riviera Villa Architecture.

The Evolution of the Cabanon and the Decadence of the Villa.

By FRANCIS MILTOUN.



VILLA ROTHSCHILD, CANNES.

If you were a stylist in fine writing you would probably say that the average Riviera villa was an exotic interpolation of an inadequate expression of domesticity in a land entirely unsuited to its transplanting. And that's just about it! You might echo in one staccato sentence as a finale: Comment, vital and incisive, is perhaps as pertinent a way of calling attention to an apparent fact as a well measured, more philosophical argument—which is the excuse for the beginning and end of this article resulting from some years' residence on the spot; not for pleasure but for business—what? Never mind.

Oh, the pity of it! The best of French traditionalists complain, as they do of the *municho-anarcho-cubico* infiltrations into the architecture lining Paris streets and boulevards. The Riviera, Nature's own setting for a luxuriant domestic architecture which might at least be as characteristic of it as that of Venice is of the Adriatic, is a hotch-potch of a broth or stew like the indigenous *bouillabaisse*.

From the primitive, native *bastide* or *cabanon* of southern France, the Riviera villa, so called, runs the gamut to the height of the Villa Rothschild at Cannes, embracing all that lies between, and that is chiefly as *outré* in this *cadre* as would be a transplanted Inns of Court or St. James's Palace. Too many triflers have had a hand in the making of that imposing array of art (*sic*) and nature which composes the famed *Côte d'Azur* of the French.

To put it mildly then: Riviera architecture as a whole is not particularly distinctive, either of regionalism or of style. Certainly the traditions of the *École des Beaux Arts* find little resounding echo here. Often it is conventional enough not to shock one and once and again arrives at the climax of sufficiency as to comfortableness within, if not to that of a superfluity of grace or beauty. Less often it is bizarre to the limit, and more often it is betwixt and between, which is to say, it offends.

If there is any pronounced tendency it is in the wholesale following of Italian, or at least Ligurian, tradition, often good in parts—like the curate's egg; ground plans with but little underpinning and often no cellar, built frequently on solid rock, grimped here and there with iron cleats or keys—the forerunner of the cement armouring of this later day.

Incongruous rather than bizarre is perhaps the best term to apply to those frontispieces and silhouettes which hit us

in the eye with respect to so many of the examples of Riviera domestic architecture seen. They belong to no nation, no creed, and appear to have been dumped down here amid the green of orange and almond and olive groves like the eggs of the great roc. In sorry distrust of himself and his powers there is ample evidence of thousands of architects and builders who go so far away from their subject that they could not possibly knit it together into anything good to look upon.

The mistake of the modern builder in these parts—and remark the fact that there are very few structural, material or inspirational difficulties to account for this—has been in straying from local traditions of form and colour. It is true, however, that the local, on-the-spot architect appears to have done better than his *étranger* confrère, and they call everyone an *étranger* who comes from north of Tarascon.

Here an interlude for a pleasant word on behalf of a supposedly soulless corporation. The Paris, Lyons and Mediterranean Railway a few years since miraculously came to the idea that they might make the stations on their new express line from Marseilles to Miramas on the plan of old Pompeian houses, or Roman dwellings, if the description better fits, which, in a but slightly modified form, they have done, thus achieving something that fits the setting. It really does. When the time comes to tear down the ugly structures of the stations of the Riviera line (indeed the time is the present since they are inadequate and unlovely without exception) they will probably be guided by the same spirit. If a joint stock company, chiefly concerned with running trains, can do this thing the private owner of a dwelling on the Riviera may well spend the time to educate himself in what is suitable and appropriate. Perhaps this will some day come to being, since the Mediterranean coast of France is more and more coming to be known as a delightful place of residence throughout the year than was thought possible by England's Chancellor when, something like three-quarters of a century ago, he sought to found what the French still recognise as a *colonie britannique* on the shores of the Gulf of La Napoule.

The haphazard intermittence of the growth of the French Riviera doubtless accounts for the misfits, that and the obsession that the Riviera was a region where everything concerning residence thereon was as bizarre and *cornue* as the mad-house film setting of Doctor Caligari. A half-

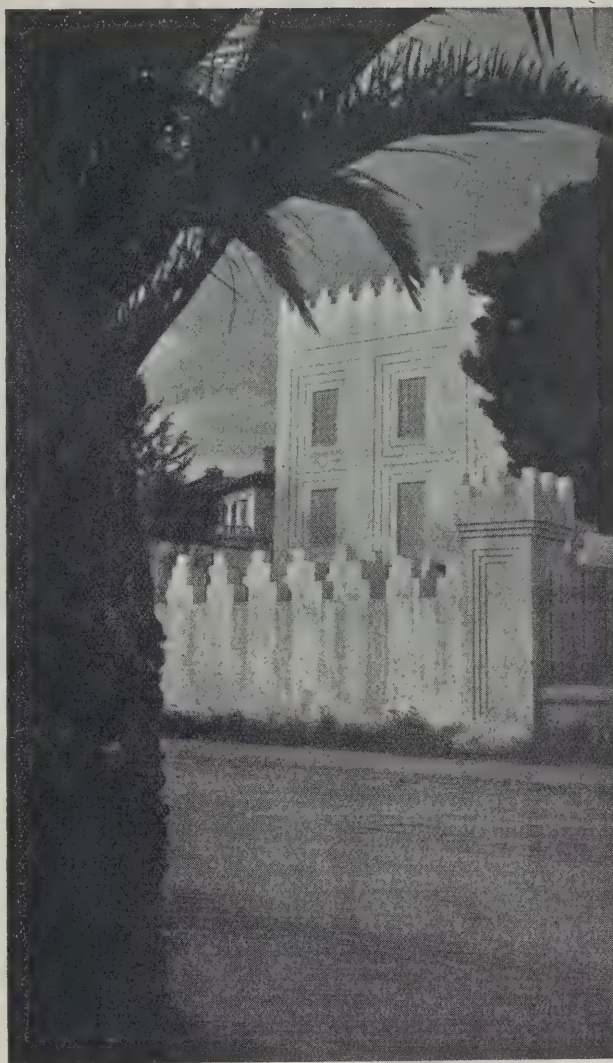
century of casualness of conception has brought about an architectural chaos with little chance that it will be changed greatly within the next generation. There's a reason! The demand is too great and building costs too high to trifle with a situation already in high gear, even if the carburization and mixture are bad.

Then, too, there is the labour question. Perhaps nowhere in the known world is foreign labour *per se* so greatly made use of in the building trades as in France; in southern France in particular. East of Marseilles along the coast it is all Italian, often even to the contractors; to the west of Marseilles it is Spanish. The southern Frenchman wants a town or a white collar job apparently; at least, to be a *directeur*, *administrateur* or *contremaître*, seldom is he a producer at the heavy labour of building or the disagreeable job of excavating. Just recently—and not well, there are practically no out-of-works in France according to French Government figures, least of all in the building trades—there has been imported a considerable quantity of unskilled Kabyle labour from the mountain districts of Algeria, a species of *main d'œuvre* capable enough to wheelbarrow crushed rock or empty sacks of Portland cement. There is very little cut stone used to-day in the Riviera villa, and what decorative use is made of tiles and mosaic (and it is growing apace) is again a speciality of the Italian artisan. You see he is getting up out of the mere labourer class, the Italian.

The ideal villa of the Riviera would be an elaboration of the *cabanon*, which your dictionary will probably tell you means a prison-house, which is ridiculous if you know your old Provence. It is simply a stone, often one-roomed, bungalow sort of a structure, sometimes with a second storey and sometimes with an added lean-to forming another room. There is no reason why its ground plan and its simplicity and appropriateness might not be carried to the *nth* degree, and something really good developed out of it; indeed, it has been done, but only seldom. Vines and yellow stone, or what looks like it, for it is really stuccoed rubble—a background merely if you are without looking in, a sheltering wall if you are inside looking out. Add a roof, a door, and few windows (never on the north) and you have a *cabanon*. One way of simplifying life on the Riviera. There have not been many latter-day attempts at *cabanon* building from the ground up, but an occasional transformation is to be met with where the original structure has been so added to, imbedded in an outer envelope so to put it, as to be lost entirely, but the fabric as a whole suggesting the fundamentals of a *cabanon* in its frankness of outline and omission of superfluous detail. Here, the beauty of the straight line; the curve being usually conspicuous by its absence.

Virtually the Riviera villa is a hybrid thing, born of no special epoch, of no country, but manifestly of the Mediterranean, as distinct from the Nordic conception of a dwelling house. At least the ear-marks show this, nine cases out of ten. Why, then, does the stranger so marvel at their charm? It's the setting, not the substance! If there is any evidence of style it may be accepted as Italian, which is but natural, as Nice—the head centre from which radiates all Riviera influence—has only been in the French fold for three-quarters of a century, and old Nice, neighbouring around the port, is as Italian as anything along the Ligurian coast farther east; so is Villefranche and Menton's old town on the hill, all reminiscent of examples of that specious architecture which may be called, if not Italian, at least Ligurian or Mediterranean, for, as if for variation, not a few take on the fantasy of the Moorish house. It may be taken for granted that the *cachet*, if not the commodity, of these old town and country houses of the former Italian *régime* is far and away ahead of that of those which have since been built.

It is doubtful if Garnier, who built the Paris "Opera," thought to do anything really great in setting a pace when he enlarged the casino at Monte Carlo from a rather bare, box-like structure in the late seventies. He did a lot, however; he overloaded the structure in every possible way with a riot of decoration which has been the keynote



VILLA RUSSE, SAINT RAPHAEL.

of every ambitious builder's aspirations in these parts ever since. An orgy of meaningless decoration has run away with the *motif* originally conceived and Riviera architecture has come to be what it has as a result. Garnier's villa, built for his own use just across the Italian border, lately occupied by an American automobile magnate, does not offend in a like manner. It may not be especially gracious, but it is effective and, again, it is Mediterranean, which Monte Carlo's casino is not. He did not make the mistake of transplanting a Tudor mansion or a Gothic horror nor even a wing of the Trianon to a setting which would make it ridiculous, whatever virtues it may have had on its native heath. And all these things have been done on the Riviera.

The Lord Salisbury villa at Beaulieu, or that of the late Gordon Bennett, Namouna, may be planned on the proportions of a packing case and lack any special architectural elegance, which is indeed true, but they are suited to the climate from their plan and construction, and they do fit into the landscape far better than something more *baroque* or *soi-disant stylise*.

There is a chocolate-coloured horror that stands by the Route Nationale, No. 7—the famous Route d'Italie as it skirts the shore between Cannes and Antibes, known of all motor tourists—called the Villa Edenrock, that the most curdled brain of a child of ten might well have conceived out of Bavarian building blocks, a perilously hung together mass of brown brick, plaster casts, blue tiles and porcelain pignons and gables which sum-totalled mask zero in the scale of æstheticism. One wonders how such things can be here in a land where Nature has been so good as to give a landscape framing which is almost idyllic and wholly delightful—building sites ready-made, not even demanding

A MEDIEVAL (*sic*) HORROR AT CANNES.

"IT IS FOR SALE."

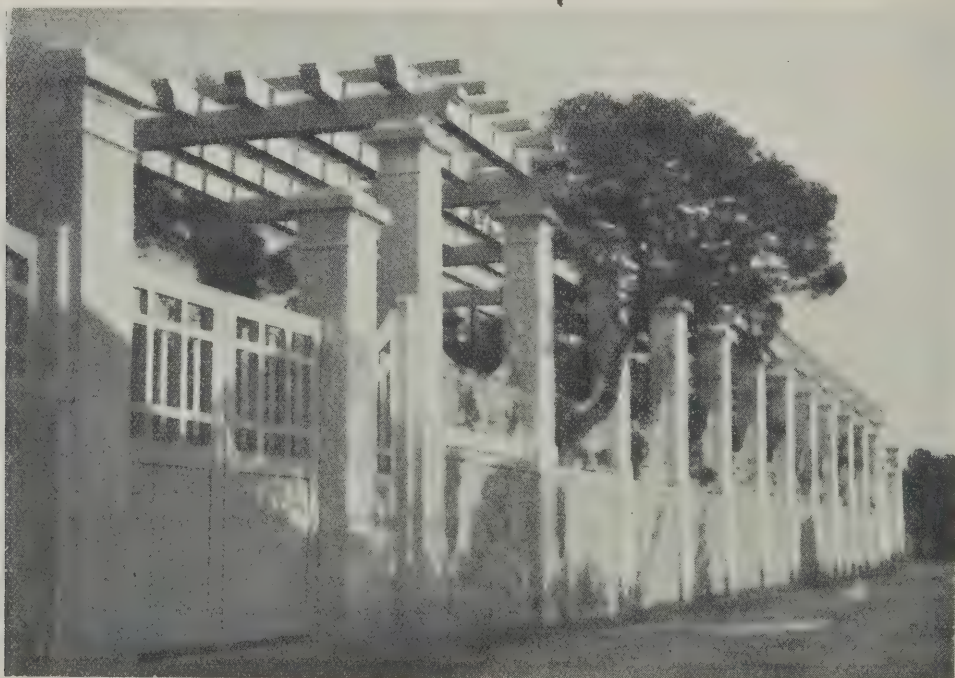
the aid of the landscape gardener, awaiting only the addition of an appropriate edifice to heighten the effect.

Of such monstrosities there are lots and a plenty. One wonders why! It takes about as much building skill to erect them and about as much sheer time to design them as would something which would reflect dignity and relevancy. One sees them all along the coast, sometimes horrible from their incongruity of design, sometimes from their bulk or lack of it. A notorious so-called Russian villa on the sea-front at Saint Raphael, which might be Ethiopian so far as it represents any particular style, has for long years been the horror of neighbours and the marvel of visitors. It cost money, is well built of rough stone stuccoed, has the best situation in the town, and has been uninhabited for years. "*Quoi bon!*" says the native—and we may well agree. Alphonse Karr, from his *Maison Clos* nearby, or Gounod, the composer, from the neighbouring *Oustalet du Capelan*, might well, were they still on earth, complain of the banality of modernity.

The transplanting of exotic architectural forms to the

Riviera, more particularly northern types, is an anomaly which ought not to be. They seldom fit, and while they may serve there is bound to be a sensation of rude falsity about life therein. There are examples which reproduce a cottage of the Malvern Hills beneath the shadow of Mont Vinaigre, the most remarkable being the Golf House at Valescure, admirable as it is in its way. At Cannes the Villa Lotus, with its timbered walls, might be a transplantation from Normandy or from Stratford-on-Avon. Explain the aberration if you can. Manifestly the temperament of humanity on the Mediterranean shores is not the same as that of those who live on the shores of the English Channel; why then expect housing facilities to take on these stranger forms? The same observation holds good with that anomalous thing the Villa Sagan at Cannes, neither Gothic, Moorish nor Mediterranean, rather the cinematograph style of architecture, not even North German Lloyd.

(*To be continued.*)



PERGOLA ON THE CORNICHE D'OR.

Board of Architectural Education.**INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.**

The arrangements for the International Congress on Architectural Education, which will be held at the R.I.B.A. from Monday, July 28th, to Friday, August 1st, 1924, are in the hands of an Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Maurice E. Webb, M.A. (F.). The following have kindly consented to serve on the Committee:—

Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Litt.D.

Sir John J. Burnet, A.R.A., R.S.A.

Lt.-Col. H. P. L. Cart de Lafontaine, O.B.E.

Mr. Arthur J. Davis.

Mr. G. Topham Forrest, F.R.S.E., F.G.S.

Mr. W. Curtis Green, A.R.A.

Mr. Stanley H. Hamp.

Mr. Arthur Keen.

Professor Beresford Pite, Hon. M.A.

Mr. W. S. Purchon, M.A.

Professor C. H. Reilly, O.B.E.

Professor A. E. Richardson.

Mr. Howard Robertson, S.A.D.G.

Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood.

Mr. Evelyn Shaw, M.V.O.

Mr. Paul Waterhouse, M.A., F.S.A.

Mr. Henry M. Fletcher, M.A., is the Hon. Secretary.

The Congress will consist of Meetings for Papers and Discussions, Visits, Receptions and a Dinner.

An Exhibition of Students' Work will be held, and it is hoped to be able to arrange for accommodation for the exhibits in Devonshire House, Piccadilly, in addition to the Galleries of the R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, W.1.

The Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers (Incorporated).**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 11, 1924.**

Sir George Croydon Marks, M.P., delivered an address on the subject "Inventions and Industries." He referred to the misconception in the popular mind as to what constituted invention as against what was described as discovery, and to the strange confusion of ideas regarding the protection of inventions by letters patent.

"Discovery" might be defined as the bringing to light what was already existent, but concealed or hidden from view, and therefore unappreciated by the ordinary observer, not the bringing into existence of something which, but for the investigator's discovery, would never have existed; thus, Newton, Harvey, Faraday and others did not invent, but discovered. On the other hand, "invention" was concerned with originating or producing something which did not previously exist, or doing in an improved way something which had previously been done otherwise; thus Bessemer invented the process by means of which sulphur was removed from steel, Watt invented something which permitted steam to be economically used in an engine; Edison invented a filament which, under the influence of an electric current and when enclosed in a vacuum chamber, or globe, emitted light; and so on.

All industries of national importance were originally based on invention, and the countries which had been the most alert and active in encouraging invention were to-day those of the greatest importance in the industrial world.

The speaker then referred to the misapprehension in the popular mind as to the reason for the grant of a patent by the State, and stated that what the State sought was the development of new industries, or the improvement of its industrial resources, based upon that which the inventor had originated and produced; in other words, it was something in the nature of a bargain or contract between the State and the individual, by which the latter surrenders the prospective sole enjoyment of his invention for a State-protected limited period of monopoly. By this the State secured for the nation the free use of the invention at the end of the patent period, and gave the nation the benefit of the improvement, or the new industry, which, but for the inventor, would not have had existence.

Finally, he warned his hearers against the astounding and revolutionary proposal lately before the League of Nations, relating to inventions, which if proceeded with would have a disastrous effect on industries depending on the development of scientific knowledge, as it proposed protection for the lifetime of the discoverer and 50 years afterwards.

Boyle's latest patent "air-pump" ventilators have been applied to the Australian Pavilion, British Empire Exhibition, Wembley. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

General News.**North of England.**

The Castle Cinema in Bolton Street, Bury, is to be altered, the premises having been acquired by new proprietors.

A donation of £30,000 has been promised towards the cost of erecting a new infirmary at Bradford for the mentally deficient.

Public washhouses are to be erected at Moss Side and Moston, Manchester; the Baths Committee are seeking permission to spend £37,000 on these buildings.

Preliminary enquiries are being made by the Durham County Council with a view to the possible purchase by them of Cocken Hall from Lord Durham. Should they be successful in securing the hall it is their intention to convert the same into a home for mentally defectives. The grounds, which consist of 103 acres, are to be included in the scheme.

A scheme for the rearrangement of the Manchester General Post Office at Spring Gardens, Manchester, is awaiting final approval.

South and West of England.

At the cost of £13,000 a new hospital, fitted with an operating theatre and X-ray department, is to be built at Teignmouth, Devon.

Messrs. Thornley & Rooke, 3, Sussex Terrace, Princes Square, Plymouth, are the architects who have prepared the necessary plans for the conversion of the Truro Market Hall into a public hall.

The plans for a public library in Magdalen Road, Springfield, were passed by the Wandsworth Borough Council; also those for an institution for the deaf and dumb in Clapham Road, Clapham.

A new parish hall is to be built at St. Marychurch, Devon, at an estimated cost of £4,000.

When the Brighton Aquarium has been demolished there is a recommendation before the Corporation for the erection of a restaurant and hall to accommodate 1,500 persons, with bath-rooms, cloak-rooms and toilet saloon, etc. There was some protest against the destruction of the Aquarium, and possibly it might have been justified, seeing that it is to be replaced by a restaurant and hall. Visitors would hardly be attracted to Brighton for such a feature, but an aquarium is rather a unique attraction in these times. For many years London has been without such a building. The need has now been supplied at the Mappin Terraces in the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park.

The Hendon Board of Guardians have under consideration the erection of a hospital on land at Burnt Oak.

Public swimming baths are to be erected at Barnet as a joint undertaking of the Barnet and East Barnet Valley Councils. The scheme is estimated to cost £26,000.—£15,000 is to be spent by a company at Becontree in the erection of a model public-house. Considerable architectural data is in existence in this connection, as two competitions have been held, both of which had exhibitions in public galleries of the drawings submitted. We published the elevations and plans of an ideal public-house by Messrs. W. & T. R. Milburn & Sons, architects, of Sunderland, in our issue of September 14, 1923.

Midlands.

The Clipstone colliery district is to have a new school. The Education Committee of the Nottinghamshire County Council are to erect the same at a cost of £15,000.

Sir Charles Nicholson, architect, has prepared plans for a music school at Rugby. The site adjoins the Temple speech room.

The Donington Grammar School is to be considerably enlarged. The Holland Education Committee have ordered the preparation of the necessary plans.

The erection of a permanent annexe to the Stafford Infirmary has been made possible by the will of the late Miss Dora Twyford, who left £12,000 for the purpose.

Wales.

The Aberkenfig Building Club propose to erect thirty houses in the Penybont area.

The Cardiff Libraries Committee are considering the necessity of carrying out alterations and additions to the libraries at Grangetown Splott and Gabalfa.

A new hotel is to be erected at Clyne Farm, Clyne, Neath.

Ireland.

The Belfast Corporation passed the plans for a number of villas recently; they include four off Irwin Avenue, one in Marlborough Park, one in Blodan Drive, twelve in Sagemor Gardens and one in College Park. In addition to these the plans of 38 terrace houses in Connisbrook Street were also approved.



CRAYFORD GARDEN VILLAGE. J. GORDON ALLEN, Architect.

National Housing Policy.

Memorandum by the Royal Institute of British Architects (sent to the Ministry of Health).

(1) The Royal Institute of British Architects was founded in the year 1834, and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1837. In addition to its own Members and Licentiates it represents the members of architectural societies which are established in every part of Great Britain, and are allied to it. The Royal Institute thus represents about ten thousand members of the architectural profession.

Early in the fifties of the last century the Council of the Royal Institute issued an appeal to improve the dwellings of the poor. Since that date some thirty or more housing Acts and Acts bearing on the housing of the working classes have been passed. These have been in the main based upon considerations of health leading to the examination of the construction of such houses, the size of their rooms, their layout and their number to the acre.

(2) *Standard.*—In later years considerations of decency in regard to the separation of the sexes have largely determined the minimum number of rooms, so that at the present time for a normal working class family consisting of father, mother and children of both sexes over twelve years of age, a living room of adequate size, three bedrooms and the necessary offices is considered the minimum standard of health and decency.

The Royal Institute are of opinion that every house should have a bathroom, and if to health and decency are to be added convenience and comfort, the addition of a parlour is essential.

On the question of layout, construction of roads, sewers and of buildings, the Royal Institute do not think it would be useful in this memorandum to discuss these in detail, but would observe that there has been a concentration of attention upon these matters during the last four years unparalleled in quality and extent.

In view of this fact, His Majesty's Government is asked to reconsider the report on Bye-Laws, the Tudor Walters' Report and the Ministry of Health Housing Manual in the light of the experience which has been gained since these admirable reports were framed. The Royal Institute would be glad to place the wide experience of its members at the disposal of the Government.

As is generally recognised, the difficulties in the way of making a proper provision for the housing of the working classes are threefold, and may be summed up as those of money, materials and men. On these three matters the Royal Institute make the following observations:—

(3) *Money.*—This difficulty arises from the fact that dwellings of the minimum standard before described cannot be provided without financial assistance at a rent within the capacity to pay of a large section of the working classes.

The Royal Institute therefore recognise that financial assistance is essential, but desire to point out that in giving financial assistance regard should be had to its effect in increasing demand

to a point at which inflation in prices and wages ensue. They also desire to emphasise the importance of a high standard of housing as an essential condition upon which financial assistance by the State should be given.

(4) *Materials.*—The Royal Institute lay the greatest stress upon their opinion that the materials best suited for house building are those which long experience and practice have brought into use. They do not desire to discourage experiments in new building materials, but are strongly of the opinion that the experience of the last four years, if examined, would be found overwhelmingly in favour of the materials in common use before the war.

In their opinion the difficulty of securing an abundant and cheap supply of such materials is largely associated with fluctuations in demand. The inflation of prices which followed upon the abnormal demands made upon the sources of supply in 1919 and 1920 should not be forgotten. The Royal Institute do not desire to see this repeated, and are of opinion that it will inevitably follow the attempt immediately to carry out a housing programme beyond the present capacity of the building industry. They are of opinion that the development of material supplies will take place with the minimum of inflation if the housing programme adopted is so carried out as to cover an extended period, commencing with a number within the compass of available resources and increasing to the maximum that is required by steady increments.

The Royal Institute are moreover of the opinion that the element of cost in house building which is due to the price of materials should be isolated and made known, so that a correct opinion upon it may be formed. For this purpose the Royal Institute consider that the work of the Committee on the Prices of Building Materials is of the utmost importance, and that the scope of the reference to this Committee should be enlarged if necessary so as to enable it to make recommendations on the methods best calculated to secure an adequate supply of materials at reasonable prices.

(5) *Men.*—The question of output in relation to labour is as obscure as the cost of production in relation to materials, and the Royal Institute are of opinion that it is as essential to isolate this element of cost and make it known as in the case of materials, and they therefore recommend that the Government should be asked to inquire into this matter contemporaneously with their inquiry into the price of materials. The Royal Institute are also of opinion that to avoid inflation the necessity for an extended programme beginning with a demand commensurate to the capacity of the building industry, and increasing to a maximum, is as imperative in the case of labour as in that of materials.

The man power of the building industry was seriously depleted

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by the requirements of the war. This depletion was felt by an industry already suffering from the effect of the depression in the building trade which preceded the war, and is greatly accentuated by the fact that the apprenticeship system has broken down and has not been replaced by any other means of recruiting the industry.

The Royal Institute cannot too strongly express the view that the solution of the housing problem depends more than anything else upon an increase in the number of men employed in building. Holding this opinion, they recommend that the Government should at once consider what steps can be taken in view of the failure of the apprenticeship system to secure the annual entry of sufficient numbers into the building industry.

(6) *The Effect on Building other than Housing.*—The Royal Institute are of opinion that the attention of the Government should be drawn to the fact that house building has hitherto engaged but a small part of the activities of the building industry. Those activities are threefold.

- (1) The maintenance of existing buildings.
- (2) The provision of buildings for commercial, industrial and public purposes.
- (3) The provision of dwellings.

It is clear that an abnormal demand upon a depleted industry for the purposes of house building must react unfavourably upon the cost of maintenance and the provision of buildings other than dwellings. It would be a penny wise and pound foolish policy either to let old buildings sink into disrepair, or to cripple the expansion of trade and industry at a time when unemployment is so great. Both these considerations point to the conclusion already expressed that a housing programme, while outlined on a sufficient scale and carried out with vigour and determination, must have regard in its earlier stages to the present capacity of the building industry.

(7) The Royal Institute are of the opinion that the housing of the working classes is a permanent task, and not merely a passing problem, and that whatever machinery be set up for its performance it is essential that architectural experience and practice should be employed to the fullest extent. It is desirable that the resources of the architectural profession in every locality should be as fully requisitioned as those of materials and labour, and the Institute, in conjunction with its allied societies, is prepared to assist the Government to the fullest extent in securing this result.

Housing.



COTTAGES: VICTORY AVENUE. RAYMOND UNWIN, Architect.

South and West of England.

Plans have been passed by the Newbury Rural District Council for the erection of cottages in Station Road and Bath Road, Thatcham.

The Urban District Council of Carshalton are building 28 cottages and eight flats; the plans for these dwellings have been recently approved by the Council. The same also passed the plans for ten houses in Upper Vernon Road and twelve houses in Bramley Road, two pairs of houses in Harrow Road and four pairs of houses in Carshalton Road.

Messrs. Forsyth & Maule, architects, recently submitted the plans of five cottages to be erected on the Gas Light and Coke Co.'s West Ham premises to the Town Council. This authority has now approved and passed the plans.

The Tynemouth Town Council passed the plans for five houses in Bamborough Terrace and Blanchland Terrace, and semi-detached houses in Kingsway, Kenners Dene.

The plans for a new road and twenty-nine houses on the Friern Watch estate, North Finchley, were submitted and passed by the Urban District Council, who also approved of the plans for forty-one houses to be erected in different parts of the district.

The Uxbridge Rural District Council has passed the plans for a house and two bungalows on the Hillingdon Village estate and four houses on the Swakeleys estate.

The Hailsham Rural District Council have passed a number of plans for houses and bungalows to be erected in different parts of the district.

Midlands.

The Nottingham Corporation has been recommended by the Housing Committee to sell to a syndicate a portion of the

undeveloped Sherwood housing estate for the erection by them of 70 houses.

The Tamworth Rural District Council have passed the plans for twenty-four houses which are to be erected in different parts of the district.

The Stockton authorities had before them the plans for a number of bungalows to be built in the district.

Five houses are to be built at Romanby; the plans have been submitted to the Northallerton Rural District Council by Messrs. Kellett & Clayton, of Darlington.

The Worksop Urban District Council have passed the plans for twenty-eight houses at Rhodesia for the Shireoaks Colliery Co., Ltd., also those of sixteen houses to be erected for Messrs. T. Roper & Sons, in Galeford Road.

The Urban District Council of Hinckley had a considerable housing programme before them recently; plans for a number of houses were submitted and passed by them.

North of England.

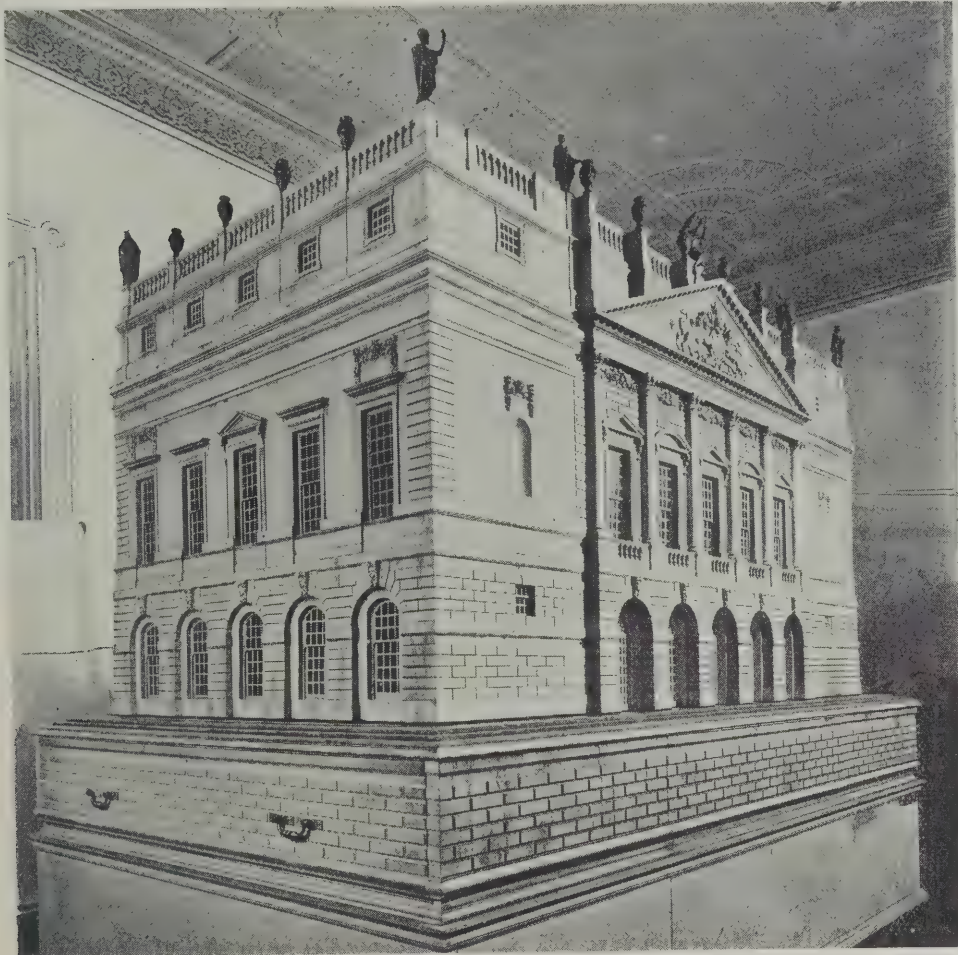
The Malton Urban District have been requested to carry out the work of constructing roads and sewers on the estate owned by Earl Fitzwilliam at his Lordship's expense. The estate is to be laid out for building purposes and lies near Middlecove Road. About 20 houses are to be erected, the plans of the first having recently been passed by the Council.

A new self-contained village has been planned at Adwick under the auspices of the National Industrial Housing Association. The Adwick-le-Street Urban District Council have passed the plans for 552 houses to be erected in the village.

As soon as the Durham Council have passed the plans for the eight houses to be erected by the Trimdon Grange Lodge, building operations will be started.

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THE QUEEN'S DOLLS' HOUSE. SIR E. L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect.

Ideals and the Institute.

It is well that we should have ideals, but wise to consider how far they are consistent with common sense, and this applies to a professional society, its policy and its aims.

We may either believe in trying to make the Institute a high-class trades union, forming rules and setting up restrictions for its members, or we may consider its chief object should be to make it a meeting place for those who are interested in the practice of civil architecture and have obtained a certain degree of competence in that calling.

If we consider it as a trades union it is natural that our first object should be to increase its members and to endeavour to add to the privileges of the individual members by forcing them to act in perfect union like the members of a trades union do in order by collective action to secure additional advantages for all. In the one case it becomes a sort of architects' union, in the other an institute of architecture.

To arrive at the balance of advantage and disadvantage of either course we must consider the possibility of obtaining the ends sought.

It would be comparatively easy to increase the size of the Institute as there are many outside architects who believe it would be to their advantage to join

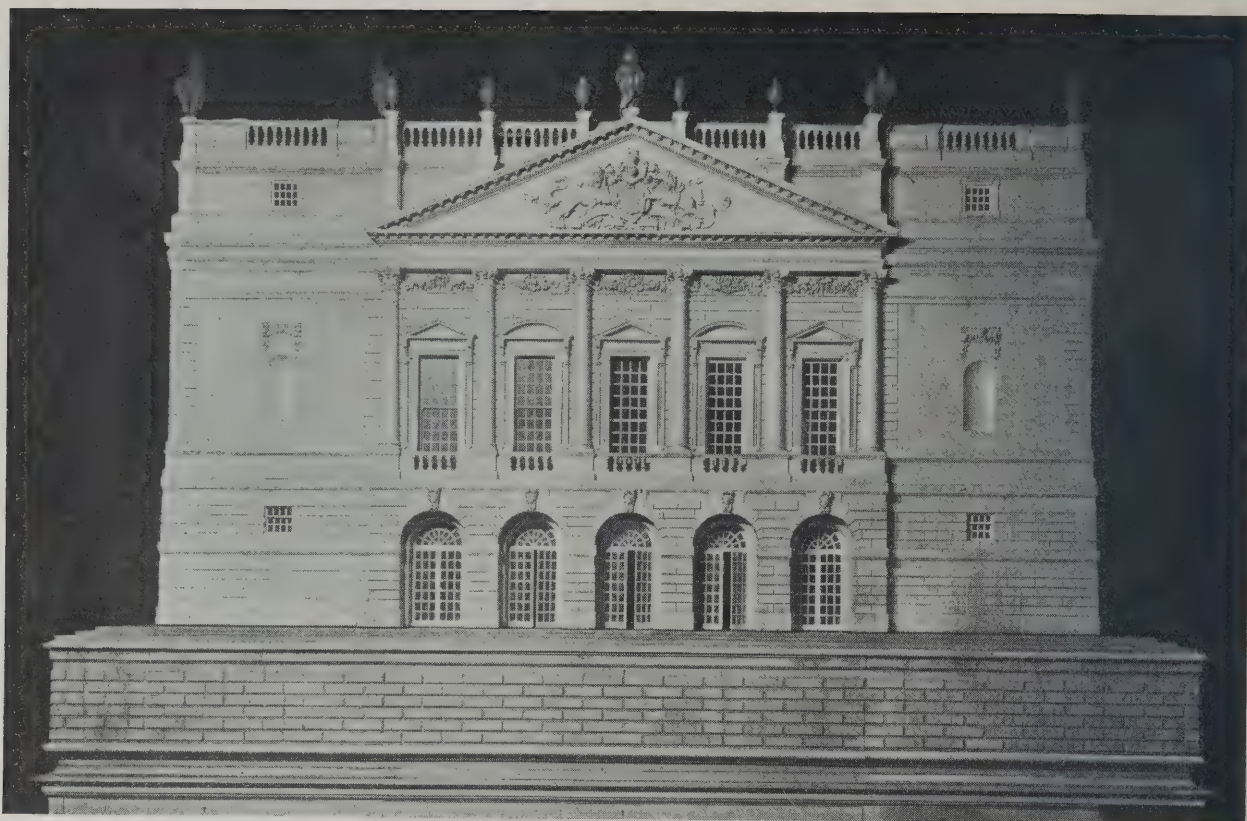
it if they could do so on sufficiently easy terms, were it not for the fact that those who are already members have an uneasy feeling that such admissions would tend to lower the value of their status—a belief we hold to be unquestionably sound.

We think it would be a mistake which would be regretted if any admissions were made to either of the existing classes of the R.I.B.A. other than by the established channels.

If the Society of Architects is to be amalgamated with the Institute it should, we think, be effected by the creation of a new class of members and not by the alteration of existing tests, and even this might be a policy of doubtful wisdom.

If we thought that by building up a large Institute we could provide more work or opportunity for architects than those which now exist, our conclusions would be altered, but we cannot see any probability of such a step inducing any member of public to employ an architect when he would not otherwise do so. Nor, as far as we can see, would it be likely to lead any architect to do better work than he otherwise would do.

That it would bring the imagined boon of Statutory Registration any nearer seems to us wholly unlikely, but assuming this wished for measure ever became law



THE QUEEN'S DOLLS' HOUSE: MAIN FACADE. SIR E. L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect.

we do not think for a moment that architects would be enabled to charge more for their services or that they would get their fees with greater certainty, or that they would be more frequently employed by the public than they now are.

The confidence and respect of the individual member of the public for the individual architect whom he employs is the essential consideration, and does not depend on any of the factors we have been considering but on the client's belief that the architect can render him certain necessary services and on his personal liking for him or his belief in his skill and ability.

By our work and by it alone we may be able to play a part in a peaceful penetration of the public by the conviction that it requires us, and this conviction will not arise from any corporate action taken by any professional body.

Every great architect and every fine building helps to further such impressions, but it seems to us that nothing the Institute can do is likely to do so.

The advantages of taking the other course seem to us to be great. A comparatively small number of really eminent men would have greater weight and influence than that of a larger body where the best men are uneasily yoked together with "unbelievers." Be the weight of numbers as great as it might become by the inclusion of all so-called architects, they will always be an insignificant section in modern life, and outside their ranks will always be a great number of men who are not architects but who deal with structural building and who profess to have "taste."

We have no desire to see the R.I.B.A. larger than it is if the end is to be produced by the inclusion of weak men of little standing, but we desire that it include men of attainments. We have no desire to see it attempt to secure publicity as a body but feel great satisfaction when any architect obtains public

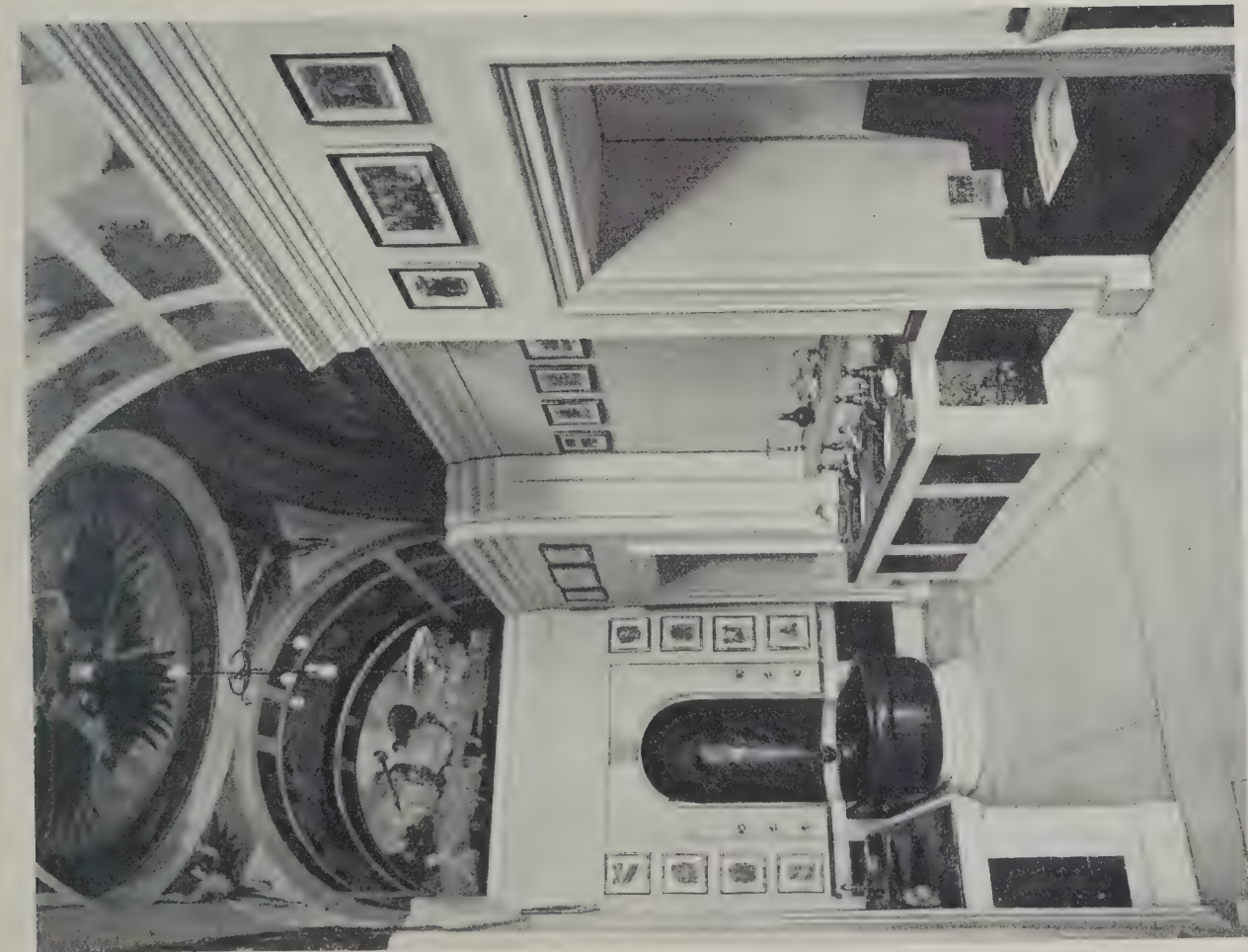
attention by the merit of his work. We could name half-a-dozen architects who have done more service in this manner than the Institute ever has or ever can do, but in saying this we are not condemning the Institute but simply recognizing that a corporate body can achieve little.

The popular superstition for the moment is a belief in the power of numbers rather than that of the individual, but the ability, skill and power of the individual is nevertheless now as it always has been, the greatest of vital forces in the world.

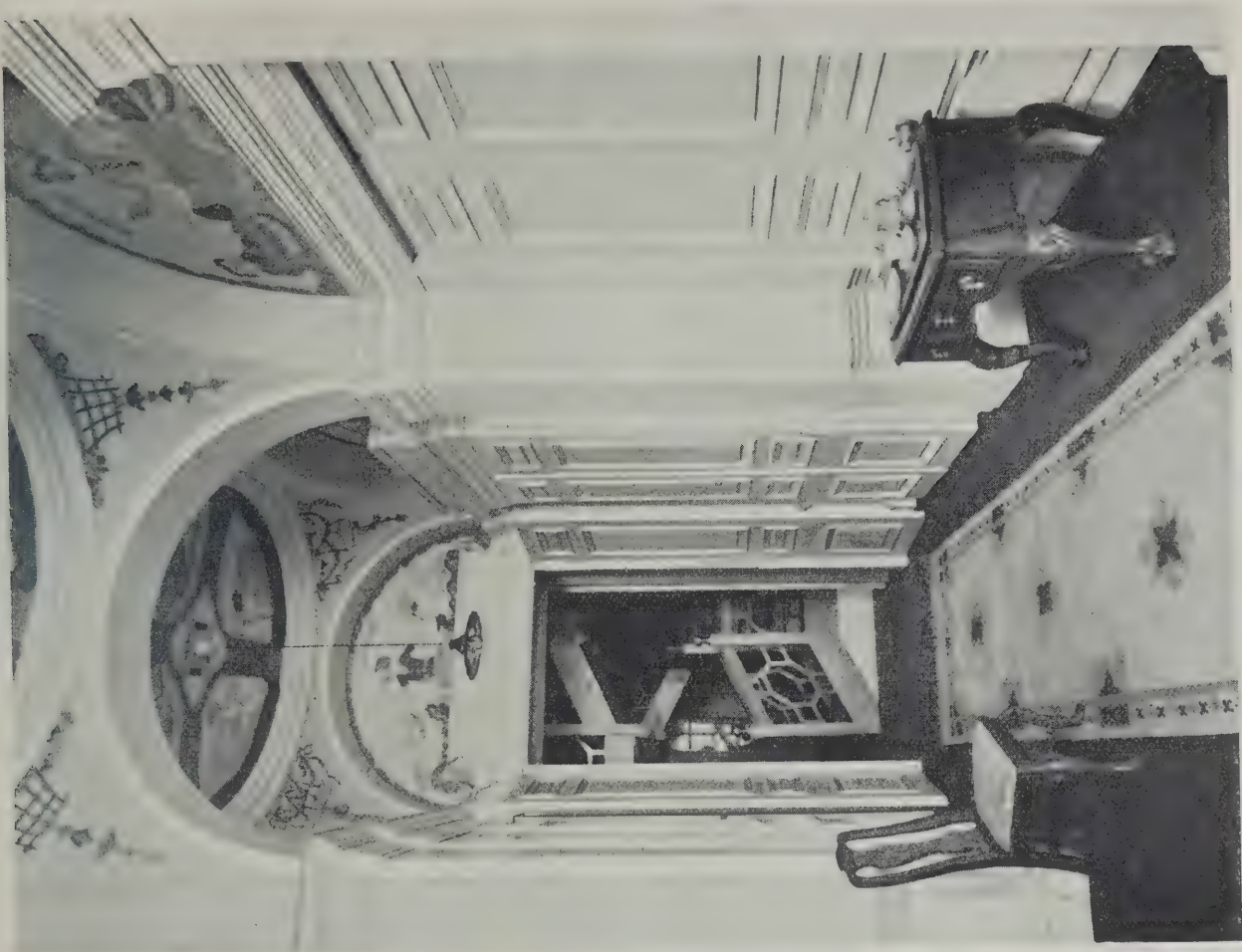
The membership of the Institute *qua membership* resembles that of any club or association which those who are proposed and are willing to pay a certain subscription can belong to, the element which has given it its value is the fact that a qualifying test must be passed. This consideration should have weight with those whose actions sometimes make us imagine that their ideal is that of a militant trades union, a rôle for which we do not think the Institute well adapted.

It should also be remembered that the R.I.B.A. for years was the only body which had a qualifying examination in architecture, but that it is now one of many bodies, since the Universities have established degrees in architecture. Under these circumstances it is more necessary, and not less necessary than it was, that it should do nothing which militates against the value or efficiency of the tests required.

We may instance the Royal Academy as an example of a body which though small in numbers possesses very great influence because it is considered that its members are prominent and proved exponents of the Arts they practice. Were this conviction destroyed, no increase in the number of its members or the gift of further privileges would give it more weight than it now has.



THE KING'S BATHROOM.



THE QUEEN'S WARDROBE.

THE QUEEN'S DOLLS' HOUSE. SIR E. L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect.

Our Illustrations.

THE SHEPHERDS BUSH PAVILION. FRANK T. VERITY, Architect.

THE PULPIT OF ST. NICOLAS GENT. Drawings by J. C. SHEPHERD from the A.A. Sketch Book.

CHURCH AT PONTE, SWITZERLAND.

OLD CHURCH, ST. GIAN, NEAR CELERINA, SWITZERLAND.



THE SHEPHERDS BUSH PAVILION.
FRANK T. VERITY, Architect.

The Queen's Dolls' House.

By SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect.

This model is 5 feet high to the top of the parapet, 8 feet 6 inches long, 5 feet deep, and has been constructed as to represent a large house of the present time. The scale is 1 inch to a foot, and so well is the scale maintained that from photographs it is difficult to realise the rooms and their furniture are not full sized. The outside walls of the palace are made to rise so that every room can be seen. The garden folds up like a writing desk and slides into the basement as the garage containing Rolls Royce, Daimler, Sunbeam and Vauxhall cars does the other end. The centre of the main front is taken up with the great stair case hall 31 inches broad; marble lapis lazuli paving, the walls painted by William Nicholson in blue and white. A lift with external control is held by many, the most marvellous contrivance in the palace.

The Queen's bedroom, with a black, red and yellow ceiling, by Glyn Philpot, A.R.A., is only 22 inches high, yet it contains grey silk hangings, and bed, walnut furniture, carpet, and even the blue enamelled toilet set, and a photograph of the King. The King's bathroom is in white and dark green marble. A different kind of perfection is seen in the dining room, the ceiling by Professor Gerald Moira, Queen Victoria, Prince Consort by MacEvoy, Munning's Prince of Wales above the chimney-piece. The library, 28 inches high, is wainscotted in walnut, the books bound in red or grey leather, some written in MSS. by the authors. The ceiling by William Walcott.

The nursery, painted by Edward Dulcay with fairy stories, is 8 inches high. The ordinary bedrooms are 10 inches wide and 8 inches high, each completely furnished.

There are four bathrooms, a boxroom (8 by 10), a strong room with the crowns and sceptres (with real tiny jewels), housemaids' closet with sinks and Dutch tiles, each one half an inch square. And beneath these are stores and cellars.

Electric light is fitted to every room, and it works.

Sir Edwin Lutyens designed the house and all its rooms, and a multitude of famous firms have contributed.

Her Majesty, to whom the house will be presented, has supervised its furnishing and has given many objects herself. The proceeds of the exhibition go to charity.

Notes and Comments.

The Birmingham Advisory Art Committee.

The Birmingham Advisory Art Committee, which was constituted in 1922, send us their annual report. During the past year 57 submissions were made to them, which were dealt with after personal examination and visits to the sites in question. The Committee consists of not more than 12 members and has been approved by 28 Committees of the City Council. The ex-officio members of the Committee include the Lord Mayor and representatives of the Public Works Committee, Education Committee, the City Surveyor, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, the Principal of the University, the Director of the School of Art, the President of the Birmingham Architectural Association, and the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Civic Society. The Committee has already done much good, and we hope the example so well set by Birmingham will be followed elsewhere, as it is on very good lines.

The £500 House.

The proposed new housing scheme seems to us to be likely to be stillborn, as it is clear that it will have two vital

defects. The first of these is that it is equivalent to a subsidy of about three times the amount of that given under the late Government's scheme, and if 2,000,000 houses are to be built this would increase taxation by an amount of £40,000,000 a year for 60 years, or £60,000,000 a year for 20 years. But, formidable as this is, the damage does not end here. During the time such a scheme was in operation no one could be induced to undertake the building of houses as a private venture, and for this reason while a past demand was in process of being met a present and greater one would be growing up, a want which could not be met without bringing the finances of the country into bankruptcy. We hope that there will be sufficient opposition in the House of Commons to defeat one of the most dangerous proposals ever brought forward in the House.

A Criticism from Manchester.

"The Government's proposal seems to me undesirable for two reasons," said Mr. E. D. Simon, M.P. (the chairman of the Manchester Housing Committee), yesterday.

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Arch. of Marlborough.
Dell.

FEBRUARY 22nd, 1924.



USH PAVILION.

T. ARCHITECT.

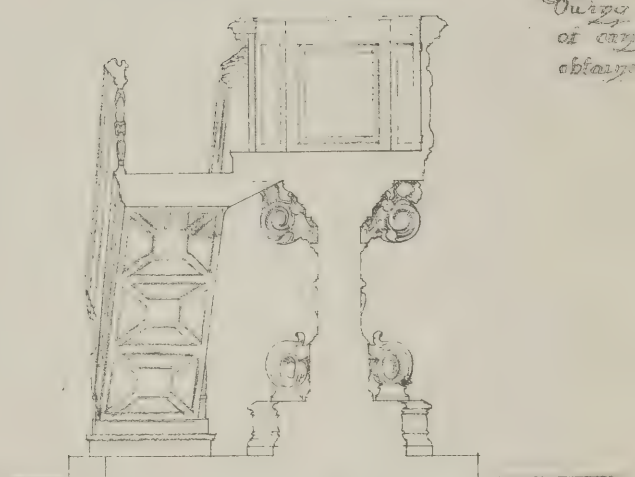
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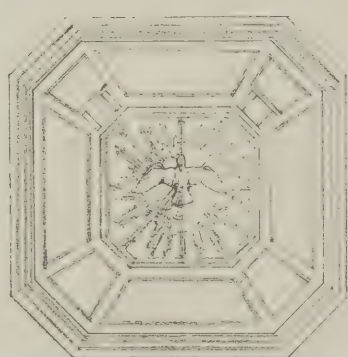
PULPIT · OF · S

*All carving, moulding, and other woodwork Oak.
Base black marble step enclosing black & white
marble tiles*

*Due to height detail in centre
of canopy could not be accurately
obtained.*



CROSS SECTION



PLAN OF SOUNDING BOARD
LOOKING UP

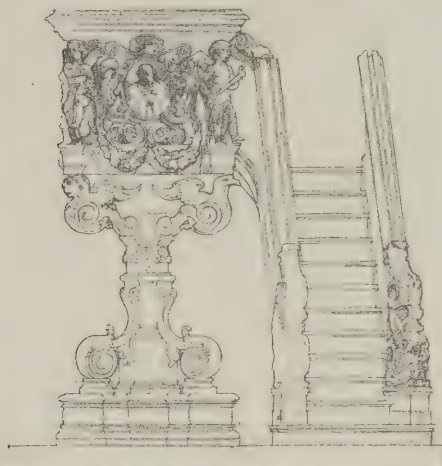
Scale of small elevation, section & plan



FEBRUARY 22nd, 1924.

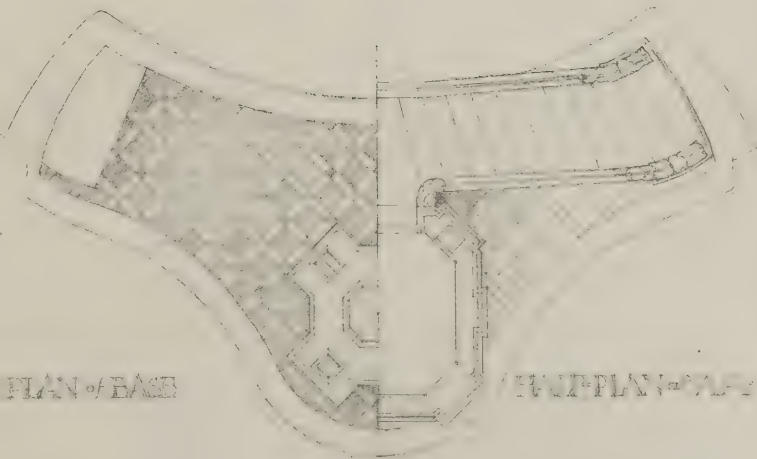
NICOLAS · GHENT

*Probably the work of Jerry Picot... under the direction
of Norbert Sauvage!
who undertook the contract in February 1868.*



SIDE ELEVATION

*Stair repeats on both sides & was restored
in 1840. Main portion dated 1771.
The figures supporting the canopy are
not so carefully carved as many other
of detail.*



FLOOR PLAN OF BASE

FLOOR PLAN OF CANOPY

Floor size.

Scale of large drawing.

Amount of work done in 1840 & 1868.

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CHURCH AT PONTE, SWITZERLAND.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY CHR. MEISSER.

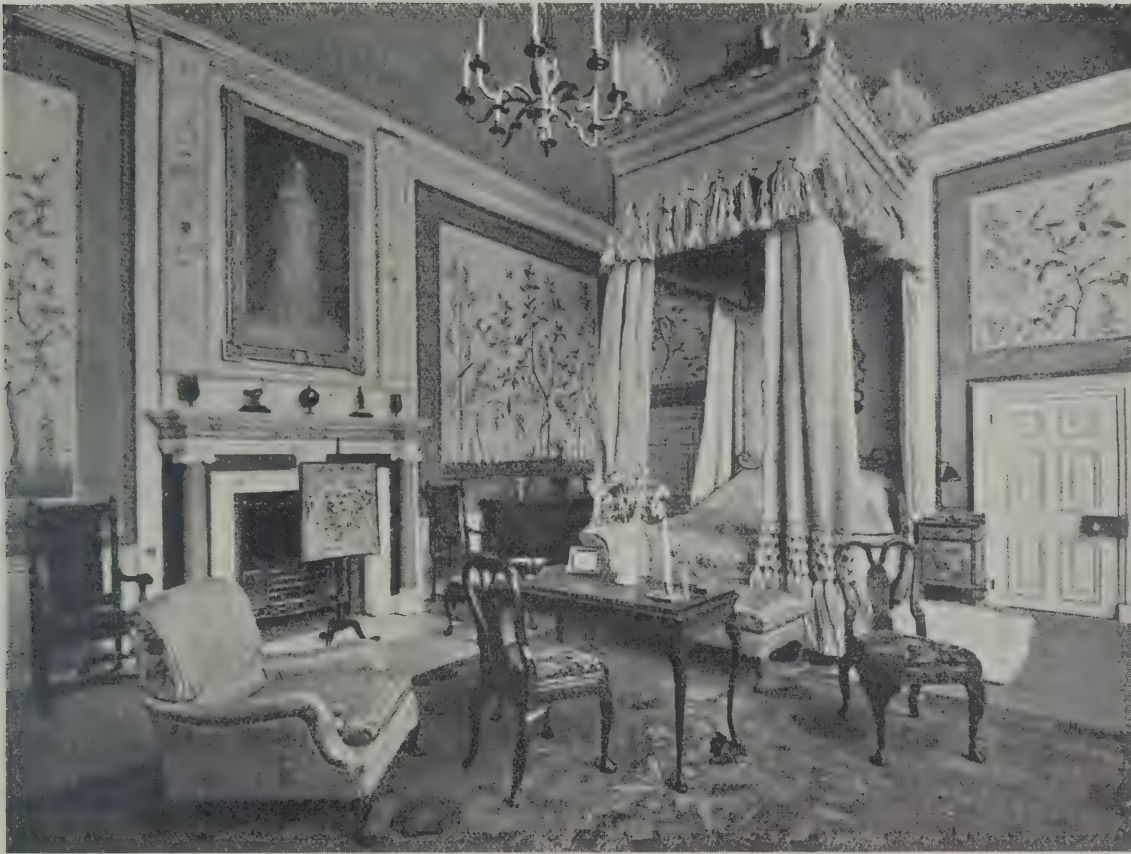


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OLD CHURCH, ST. GIAN, NEAR CELERINA.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY ALBERT STEINER, ST. MORITZ, ENGADINE.

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THE KING'S BEDROOM.



THE KITCHEN.

THE QUEEN'S DOLLS' HOUSE. SIR E. L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect.

Notes and Comments—Continued.

"The increase in the subsidy which will be necessary will increase the expenses, and fewer houses will be built, which would be very unfortunate.

"Secondly, it would mean creating a privileged class of tenants, because the people in the houses built under the Chamberlain Act would be paying 15s. a week, whereas people living in identical houses built under the MacDonald proposal—on the opposite side of the road, perhaps—would pay only 9s., which is neither desirable nor just.

"We are building houses in Manchester now for about £500, and letting them at 15s., inclusive of rates, which means 10s. for rent and 5s. for rates. Mr. MacDonald does not suggest reducing the rates, so far as I understand, but knocking off 6s. for rent, which would bring it down from 10s. to 4s.

"The present subsidy, estimated by the Manchester Finance Committee, is about £10, and under the new proposals this would have to be increased to about £30. As it is not likely that Manchester will agree to the increased subsidy going on the rates, it would mean increasing the subsidy from the taxes from £6 to £26, as at the present time £6 of the subsidy is paid by the Government and £4 from the rates.

"My view is that Manchester should build 4,000 houses, so that under the previous scheme the subsidy would mean £40,000 a year, but under the new proposals it would mean about three times that amount."

As Manchester is in these matters Progressive, this criticism has more weight than it might have if made elsewhere.

A Reasonable Enquiry.

Government enquiries are instituted at frequent intervals to deal with all manner of difficult and complex questions, but there is one in which an enquiry might be of real service. We allude to an enquiry into the gross amount which can be raised by taxation without crippling industry and consequently decreasing the amount of available employment. We believe that the result of the enquiry would clearly show that this maximum amount has already been exceeded, and if so the main object of any Government should be to reduce the number of its commitments. The vital question is not what is desirable irrespective of cost, but what is the best way to spend the total revenue which is forthcoming without crippling trade, but recent administrations have overlooked this very clear and commonsense consideration.

Dilution.

Mr. John Coleridge, F.R.I.B.A., writes an excellent letter to the "Times" on the subject of dilution, in which he says:—

"There is one method of solving the question of dilution of labour and apprenticeship in the building trade, which go together, that has not, so far as I am aware, been suggested.

"The first difficulty is to get the masters to apprentice grown men, because they want something to live on during their apprenticeship. I venture to suggest that during an apprenticeship of, say, two years the present amount of the dole should be paid to the master on the production of his apprentice's receipt for his week's pay of an equal amount or more. This would ensure that a man did his work and got his pay, and it would no longer be a dole for doing nothing, but an honourable subsistence allowance while learning his trade. It could be worked through the Labour Exchanges with little trouble.

"The unions will say it takes five years to make a bricklayer, but no person of sense who handled men during the war will believe it. They learned! It is not as if the standard of craftsmanship was universally high in the unions. As an architect I spend a large part of my time in regretting that it is not and correcting mistakes and bad workmanship. I would set no limit to the age of an apprentice. Why should a man be debarred from learning a trade because he has more sense than a boy? The present tyranny of the building trade unions is ridiculous and

contrary to public policy when houses are so badly needed, and the present Government will deserve badly of the great class of people who need homes and the great class of decent unemployed if they allow it to go on."

The suggestion that the "dole" should be paid to the employer under whom the worker is qualifying is a very good one, and we hope to see it taken up and acted upon.

The R.I.B.A. Royal Gold Medal.

His numerous friends and admirers will be delighted to know that it has been decided to nominate Mr. W. R. Lethaby as a recipient of the Gold Medal for the year 1924. We sometimes find it difficult to analyse and understand phrases which express a further meaning to others, and we have often regretted that Professor Lethaby has not expressed himself more prominently in actual building, as we should have been able by such means to understand his meaning more readily. The use of ornament has often met with severe criticism when it has seemed to us that the critics were satisfied with replacing something they objected to by something else which had to us no greater meaning. It may of course be that we are unconsciously swayed in our liking for what we are accustomed to, and do not readily see the merits of a new dispensation. Problems of taste, truth, sincerity and structure suggests thoughts which lead many of us to diametrically different conclusions. In any case Professor Lethaby has made people think, and has in this manner done a great deal of good which could have been achieved in no other way.

Correspondence.**The Housing Memorandum of the R.I.B.A.**

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—When reading the very admirable memorandum of the R.I.B.A. on the subject of Housing I was irresistibly reminded of a similar document drawn up to the Patagonian Chapter of the Chilean Society of Architects, from which I quote the following:—

"In view of the fact that the climate of Patagonia is somewhat inclement the provision of housing there becomes a matter of national importance.

"Our Chapter has had the matter under consideration for 50 years, continuing the beneficent work first undertaken under the Incas and subsequently under the Governor-Generals of Spain.

"1. They consider that all houses should contain rooms and, if possible, water-closets.

"2. Further, that such rooms, unless curved in outline, must have angles, and that corners are produced by the junction of these angles with a horizontal surface such as a floor or ceiling.

"3. No bedroom can be considered as wholly satisfactory unless it contains room for a bed, and each such room should have a door for access, and when possible a window for light and ventilation.

"4. Every fireplace should be provided with a flue.

"5. Houses which are built with good materials and are well constructed are, on the whole, to be preferred to those which are not.

"6. The Chapter considers that the foregoing advantages can best be secured by the employment of its members as architects, the fees for such services to be paid to the architect before he commences work, and in order that no delay should occur the Chapter urges that all its members should receive a yearly retaining fee from the Government.

"7. There seems to the Chapter no valid reason why Government aid for housing should not be extended indefinitely and in perpetuity, providing that:

"8. Members of the Chapter shall always be employed as architects for such work.

"9. That they shall be exempted from all taxation to provide funds for such purposes.

"10. That in view of the prevailing shortage of both labour and materials luxury buildings should not be erected.

"11. That the term luxury building shall be taken to mean any building in connection with which no member of the Chapter is employed as architect.

"12. The Chapter is at all times willing to give its help and assistance to the Department of Sanitation out of its love for the nation and for humanity."

It is, Sir, a comfort and satisfaction to find that the Institute of which we have reason to be so proud is not alone in the great efforts it is making for the common good.—I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

AN ENTHUSIASTIC FELLOW.

Registration.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Judging from a circular recently issued to all corporate members of the R.I.B.A., it appears as if the old quarrel between “ins” and “outs” is to be revived, upon crabbed points and petty issues. I am now becoming an old man, and rarely intervene, but trust you will allow me to point a way by which, perhaps, what all desire (registration, with such unification as would necessarily be involved) may be brought about with good feeling and general consent? There are strong opponents of either “Registration” or “Unification” taking precedence. The way of generous statesmanship appears to be that of concurrency.

The Society's Bill, as it stands, would certainly register all members of the Society, but it would deprive them of their status as members and wreck the Society. On the other hand, it would not need much altering to itself confer upon these gentlemen, as well as upon all others who, not being members of the R.I.B.A., could claim registration, the title of “Registered Architect” (or any other that might be agreed upon), and to bring all under Institute control. A little generosity here, in admitting at the time of passing of the measure, a considerable number as Fellows, Associates or Licentiates (not under Charter, but under the Bill) would work wonders, and do only temporary harm.

Such a Bill, under the present Government—remembering that the Society's Bill as it stands was “settled” by a K.C., who now holds high office, and that its general principles are those with which trade unionists are bound to agree—would stand quite a good chance of passing. To say, as has been said, that there is no public case for it is sheer nonsense. The whole of the slum problem of the present time denotes the case! With properly trained architects, under whom alone habitable buildings would be allowed to be constructed, no such problem could have arisen. But the necessary powers could only be given to architects who were welded under registration into a body whose competence was recognised, and who would be dealt with, if necessary—just as the issue of death certificates could scarcely have been permitted to medical practitioners before they secured registration. All our building by-laws, etc., are mere makeshifts for lack of such registration.

Statesmanship, generosity and boldness, combined, perhaps, with a little mutual goodwill, alone are necessary—and also combined with promptitude and clear leadership from the right quarter—to secure that which we all desire, and for which I have personally been striving ever since my letter to “The Building News” of February, 1884, just forty years ago.

Croakings may be disregarded, for the whole outlook of Parliament has changed.

G. A. T. MIDDLETON.

February 15, 1924.

R.I.B.A. Emergency Committee.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—The Defence League circular signed by Mr. Cross and Mr. Perks with which Members of the R.I.B.A. have been favoured indicates clearly that the policy of this League is now definitely anti-registrationist for reasons set out in the circular, as well as against any real reconciliation with the Society of Architects.

Every vote given for the League is, therefore, a vote given against Registration.

Whatever the policy of the present Council may be, its members were certainly not elected by an overwhelming vote at the last Election to give up in so half-hearted a manner the attempt to find a solution of this difficult problem, and it is therefore to be hoped that Members will wait until the proposals of the Council are announced before lending their support to such a retrograde movement as is foreshadowed in the Defence League circular.

Yours faithfully, MAURICE E. WEBB.

Hon. Secretary, 1922 Emergency Committee.

Architectural Draughtsmanship of the Last Hundred Years.

This exhibition is somewhat disappointing and hardly adequately representative of the title. Many good drawings are shown, including those of such men as Messrs. Hepworth and Tait, though we recollect having seen even finer examples of their work. There is only one representation of Cyril Farey's. Everybody knows that he has produced a great number of very clever drawings, and visitors to the exhibition will not obtain a true impression of his work from the one exhibited. While Messrs. Atkinson, Horsnell, Gascoyne, Walcot, Mallows and

Davidson are not represented by any of their best work. Griggs also occupies a leading place as an exponent of a special style. Faulkner and Briant Poulter are missing from the exhibition. Students and the general public should have an opportunity of seeing some of Robert Atkinson's perspectives and half-inch detail drawings. He has executed some splendid work for various architects and in connection with past competitions. Then the late C. E. Mallows, one of the leading draughtsmen of the last fifty years, whose output of work was exceptional, is only represented by two of his less notable drawings. Geoffrey Lucas is a fine pen worker, and many very good examples of his work could easily have been found by a reference to the architectural press, and this applies to the whole exhibition. A study of the illustrations that have been published during the past fifty years and more would have enabled the promoters to have discovered for whom most of our architectural draughtsmen executed work.

No example of Pennell or Railton is to be found. Watson Hart, Moodie, and numbers of others should have been included in an exhibition of this title, which is a little suggestive of a novel in which the plot has been omitted.

“The Architect” Fifty Years Ago.

FEBRUARY 21, 1874.

THE BIRMINGHAM MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.

On Tuesday last the Town Council of Birmingham accepted the tender of Messrs. Barnsley & Sons, amounting to 83,220*l.*, for the erection of the Municipal Buildings. Twenty-one tenders had been received, the amounts varying from 81,635*l.* to 102,234*l.* It was proposed that Mansfield stone at extra cost should be substituted for Wrexham stone as provided in the specification, but as the Building Committee found on consulting with the architect that the latter was, if carefully selected, quite equal to Mansfield stone, they determined not to adopt the more expensive stone. The buildings will front Ann Street, with side elevations to Congreve Street and Eden Place. The length will be 292 feet, the depth 100 feet and the general height about 65 feet. At each end the building will be carried up to 76 feet, and in the centre to 90 feet, while behind this a tower and dome will reach a total height of 165 feet. In general height the new buildings will harmonise with the Town Hall. There are four floors divided into eighty rooms of varying sizes. In the basement are offices and store-rooms. The ground-floor is occupied, in the centre, by the principal entrance, with the grand staircase, and the necessary corridors. At the Eden Place end are the offices of the Borough Surveyor, and of officers connected with his department. The corresponding block at the Congreve Street end is assigned to the Town Clerk and his staff, with an office for the Mayor. Each department has its separate entrance, but communicates also with the main entrance, by corridors, and with the floors above and below; and each division has its strong rooms, lifts, and other conveniences. Between these two blocks, on each side of the main entrance, rooms are provided for the various committees of the Corporation. Thus, all the departments to which the largest share of public business falls, are placed on the floor, which is most accessible. On the first floor, towards Eden Place, are the offices of the Borough Treasurer, the rate-collecting department being in the basement. At the opposite, or Congreve Street end of the first floor, is the Council Chamber; between the Council Chamber and the Borough Treasurer's rooms—but cut off from both—is a suite of reception rooms, 150 feet in length, by 30 feet wide, and 30 feet high; the approach being from the central entrance. On the second floor are offices belonging to various departments, and store-rooms; and still higher—running the entire length of the building—is a series of store-rooms for the records of the borough and other matters pertaining to municipal business.

In style the new buildings will be Italian. The lower storey has square piers, about 22 feet high, between the windows, with carved capitals. Above these the square piers of the main storey (30 feet high) project from the walls, and have richly carved capitals, each of independent design. At the angles of the building and in the centre these piers are replaced by columns. At the Congreve Street end the angle of the building is curved, and is surmounted by a bold semicircular pediment, intended to be enriched with groups of sculpture in high relief; and this feature is repeated at the Eden Place end, but the angle is not rounded. In the centre there is a portico projecting about 16 feet—above which are groups of columns with a pediment—which will be filled in with sculpture. Along the entire front is a broad string course fully carved, and above there will be an enriched cornice.

The architect for the new building is Mr. H. Yeoville Thomason—his design having been accepted in competition.

Sketching in Lead Pencil for Architects and Others.

By JASPER SALWEY, A.R.I.B.A.

Article V.—Possibilities and Limitations.



PLATE XXXII.

It may now be seen by those who have carefully studied and followed up the method of sketching explained in the four preceding articles that quite remarkable possibilities of representation can be attained, that the architect may find by working on these lines just that facility for recording the characteristics of buildings which appeal to him, while others may see in this method the most pleasing way in which to produce spontaneous sketches which can be each a clearly stated selection of the best which the subject offers.

The method of building up and out from some prominent feature, and thus developing the sketch in accordance with your need of recording certain portions only of the subject, may of course be carried farther than what is at the most a "vignetted" sketch; and it is in regard to doing this—viz., to carrying the method to what seems to be its logical evolution—that a few observations are now essential before we can call these instructions reasonably complete, and leave the student to apply this method for his own delight or adapt it for his own ends.

The illustrations accompanying this article have therefore been drawn and selected for the particular purpose of showing what results when the method advocated for sketching is carried to the extent of what would be more rightly termed a drawing.

With one exception, the sketch of Truro (full-page plate accompanying Article I.), we have illustrated no sketch hitherto which is carried as far as that of Romsey Abbey shown herewith in Plate XXIX. Every stroke of this drawing was applied in rigid accordance with the method as laid down. There is no building up here of tones and masses by hatching or stippling or cross-hatching. The lights and shades and tone values are all the result of simply starting with a mere touch which indicated the position in the sketch of the surmounting weather vane, and from this comparatively minute point the whole sketch was, during long mornings of steady application, gradually developed downwards and outwards until the shape of the sketch assumed a vertical oblong or "upright" as generally understood. Every surface and feature was observed,

as the work proceeded, for what characteristics it presented, and these were broadly and crisply "put in;" proportion, the laws of perspective, the general hang of the subject being carefully watched all the time, until everything that could be said to belong to the subject and to present the abbey as it appears from the one and only point at which—owing to the prolific growth of trees during recent years—a general view is possible had been included or to some extent portrayed. What, then, is really the result of doing this? The architectural form and general proportions of the abbey are presented; the style and period of the architecture are obvious; the state of preservation is clearly shown; the character of the environment, neighbouring houses and so on, add the topographical note—a pleasing sketch, one may say, interesting and appealing to the architect and to others alike, and having that fascination which neat and crisp pencil work, entirely untouched by rubber or worried by faltering lines, will always have, an attainment well worth the necessary practice. It may be said to be an example of the fullest application of the method—a result equal to the utmost the true use of the method will give. It gives really all and even more than the architect requires, and as a key idea to accompanying sketches which might be made of the interior and separate features in the manner of those shown in Plate XIX., Article III., it might prove very useful.

We see, however, that as soon as the vignetting manner is departed from and the whole paper covered by this conscientious method of sketching, a curious and interesting problem arises. What was really quite pleasing in, say, Plate XXV. or XXVI., Article IV., as instances, is not present in this fuller sketch of Romsey Abbey. The very fact that the foreground has been added and that the sketch is carried up to each side of the paper seems immediately to involve the necessity for much greater depth of tone and a general sense of solidity. Now the methods of work necessary to produce this cannot be said to be proper to sketching. These articles presume to be no more than illustrated instruction in a method of "sketching" in lead pencil for architects and others. Under this title we cannot include a discussion on the greater sphere of "drawing," but we can show what seems to be, of necessity, the point where sketching ends and drawing begins.

It seems that after facility in the production of such a sketch as that of the Soke Bridge, Winchester (Plate XXV., Article IV.), should something more elaborate be desired, the needs of the architect must part company from those of the artist. The architect may require to record, for purposes of study, every particular of the subject, even to the exact set of every stone and the exact contour of every mould. A drawing from any particular point of view which would give such minutiae of detail would not only be laborious and exceedingly tedious to produce, but would be very bizarre in appearance unless handled in a most masterly way from a decorative point of view. The architect, therefore, who felt the need of more even than a clear, crisp sketch supplemented by a few measurements, or little measured drawings, would probably go about the matter in another way entirely and make a geometrical and measured drawing of the building which so greatly appealed to him, whereas the artist who found the sketch insufficient would need not technical exactitudes of scale and contour and construction, but a broad impression of the subject as a whole.

Thus a sketch carried so far as that of Romsey Abbey is really not worth while, except for the sheer pleasure of producing it. From the architect's point of view a sketch in which the essentials are selected and vignetted is really—as a sketch—sufficient. Looked at from the



ROMNEY ABBEY.
JAMES TAYLOR.

PLATE XXIX.

point of view of pictorial art such a sketch as Plate XXIX. may fail to appeal. Thus it may be shown that in a vignetted sketch this method really reaches its limit of effectiveness and utility.

Those who desire more than this must here depart from the methods as hitherto explained. A sketch at its best is not a drawing; it may, and in fact will, give the architect a great deal, all indeed, that he can hope to glean in a rapid tour. To the artist it will furnish the necessary material from which to work out a finished picture, but

it will not so well supply the preliminary study for that picture as would a little impression, "rubbed in" by any method, in which mass and "general effect" have been worked for regardless of detail and proportion.

The whole question at this stage—viz., when the art of sketching accurately has been mastered—is really one of point of view, the needs of the student in one field as against the student in another. The architect's outlook is that of seeing a building as a building, as an architectural composition or a group of buildings as complementing or

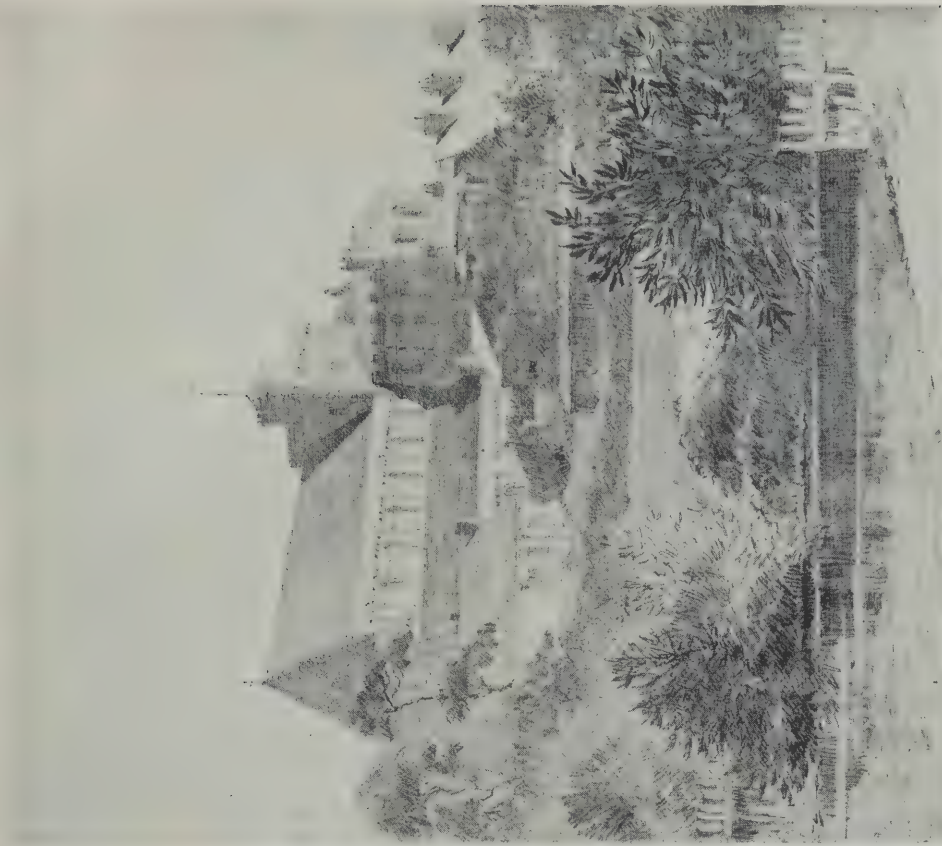


PLATE XXX.

contrasting or balancing each other, a composition in relation to site and surroundings certainly, but as having parts, features, solids and voids, all based on some principle of construction, adhering to or departing from some definite style, plain and bold or embellished with ornament and decoration. It is some great measure of all this that he desires to record; whereas the artist's outlook is one which sees the building more particularly as a form, a mass, in a pictorial composition. The effects of light and shade, the tonal scheme, the "æsthetic" of the subject,



PLATE XXXI.

these are really the things with which he is concerned; while the lay mind is again differentiated from what is broadly a matter-of-fact aspect in the one case and a sublime one in the other, for he looks upon the subject in what is comparatively a very mild manner, which brings into play no great degree of perception of either the real or the ideal, for he simply wishes to make, should he venture to handle a pencil, a simple sketch of what he sees before him.

As an illustration of this reasoning look at Plate XXX. Here is an attempt to work out something which the Romsey subject seems to suggest. It is not necessarily a sketch or a drawing; it is the kind of experimental work which the artist might need. It is the Romsey sketch merely in tone and mass with lighting effect accentuated, but the particular qualities of the sketch shown in Plate XXIX. are not there simply because this "rough, go as you please" method of work will not give them.

Or look at Plate XXXI., a sketch which gives mass and proportion a sense of light and shade, and even, it may be said, some degree of dramatic effect. But this study, again, in its manner of rendering, is not in full accordance with what is advocated for a sketch which shall be an aid to the study of the true character of the buildings depicted. Pleasing it may possibly be merely as an impression, but that is all it is.

A carefully studied little sketch vignettied on the white paper and emphasising, by the representative manner of drawing, the features which are most interesting, explaining the kind of materials, the detail, etc., would to the architect certainly be more useful.

Thus such a sketch as Plate XXXII seems surely to bring one to the conclusion that to leave the sketch, as time and inclination direct, in a condition which

some might call unfinished is the most pleasing and the most satisfactory procedure—to "put in" what you do select in the most definite manner possible, consistent with quickness of touch, and that rather than go on for the mere sake of making the sketch of a certain shape and dimension allow certain tracts of the paper to remain blank that these may be filled in by the imagination. For the Romsey sketch, as an example, tends to show that if the whole sheet is covered, those quaint patches of cute and rapid work which in the sketch, as such, are so effective and can be made to suggest so much, need to be more closely worked and pitched in a much lower key if the highly developed and symmetrical sketch is to have that sense of solidity and decorativeness that it seems to demand.

But whatever it is that you are really working for, lead pencil, perhaps the most adaptable of all the "black and white" mediums, will give it you, if the necessary technique is adopted. The method of using the pencil here outlined is exceedingly well suited to certain purposes, giving, as it does, the particular result required. It should not, however, be employed to portray those profound aspects of Nature and things which belong to the sphere of advanced and pictorial art. For that purpose a different technique and manner of treatment is required, and those who wish to study this will find it fully explained in my book, "The Art of Drawing in Lead Pencil," where the subject is treated from another point of view and discoursed on from its elementary practice and study to its most advanced application.*

* Those who wish to study other examples of lead-pencil sketching, carried out somewhat in the manner explained and advocated in these five articles, should look for examples of work by Fred Roe [Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington], A. E. Newcombe, Harold Falkner, A. Edward Perkins, F.R.I.B.A., and some of the recent contributors to "Pencil Points."

The Houseboat "White Mallard."

C. Errol Barron, Architect.

From "The American Architect and Architectural Review."



The owner of this houseboat has a large hunting preserve in the marshlands of Southwest Louisiana and the question of a hunting lodge presented the problem of either building a house on a "made" island in the marsh, calling for

rather a large dredging operation, in addition to its being useful for only the duck shooting season, or building a houseboat which would be mobile, enabling him to use it during the summer months in the lakes and rivers for house parties and for the fishing season. Due to there being so seldom the necessity of moving it, there is no power on the houseboat, a small tug being used in moving it from place to place. Because of the twisting and narrow canals which must be travelled the overall dimensions had to be reduced in the greatest degree possible, the greatest possible use being made of all the floor space.

On account of the shallow draft which must be effected, it was necessary that all living and working space be placed on the main floors. It was possible to use the hold only for storage of the tanks for the fresh water supply, coal and ice storage and for the disposal of the plumbing, heating and electric lines.

The hull is of the scow frame type, of heart yellow pine, and is 26 by 66 feet overall. The house portion is 20 by 50 feet outside overall dimensions. This provides for forward and aft, upper and lower decks 8 by 26 feet, while the upper and lower side decks are three feet wide overall.

To overcome the effect of top-heaviness, which might result in a double-decker of this type, the ceilings were kept quite low, the lower ceiling being 7½ ft. and the upper ceiling being 7 ft.

All interior partitions, except one bearing partition, are only three inches thick, formed of 2 by 4 edgways, 5-in. car siding both sides with one layer of quilt. All plumbing lines are in lead, in order to do away with hubs, in addition to the obvious fact that the lead makes the better job. The exterior walls are sheathed with ¾-in. centre matched flooring covered with waterproof quilt and sided with ¾-in. car siding put on vertically, as is also all the interior wall ceiling.

The floors are double, the lower floor having a sub-floor 2 in. thick, and are insulated with quilt, as are the walls. The flooring is of heart edged grain yellow pine, finished with four coats of varnish.

The roof is sheathed with flooring and covered with 12 oz. canvas, soaked in paint and given three coats of paint after being applied.

The fresh water supply is contained in two 2½ by 6 by 14 cypress tanks placed in the hold, these being filled with



DINING AND LIVING ROOMS. C. ERROL BARRON, Architect.



LIVING ROOM DECK AND MEN'S SLEEPING ROOM.

C. ERROL BARRON, Architect.

rain water from the roof. The water is served throughout the houseboat by an automatic pressure system. There is also an auxiliary hand pump for filling the emergency gravity tank placed in the attic, in case the electric pump should go out. Also, in the event of drought, provision is made for taking water from overboard into the tanks, and a connection has also been provided which will permit the tanks to be filled from a city water supply.

Electric current for all lighting and power purposes is supplied by an automatic plant, all the wiring being in conduit.

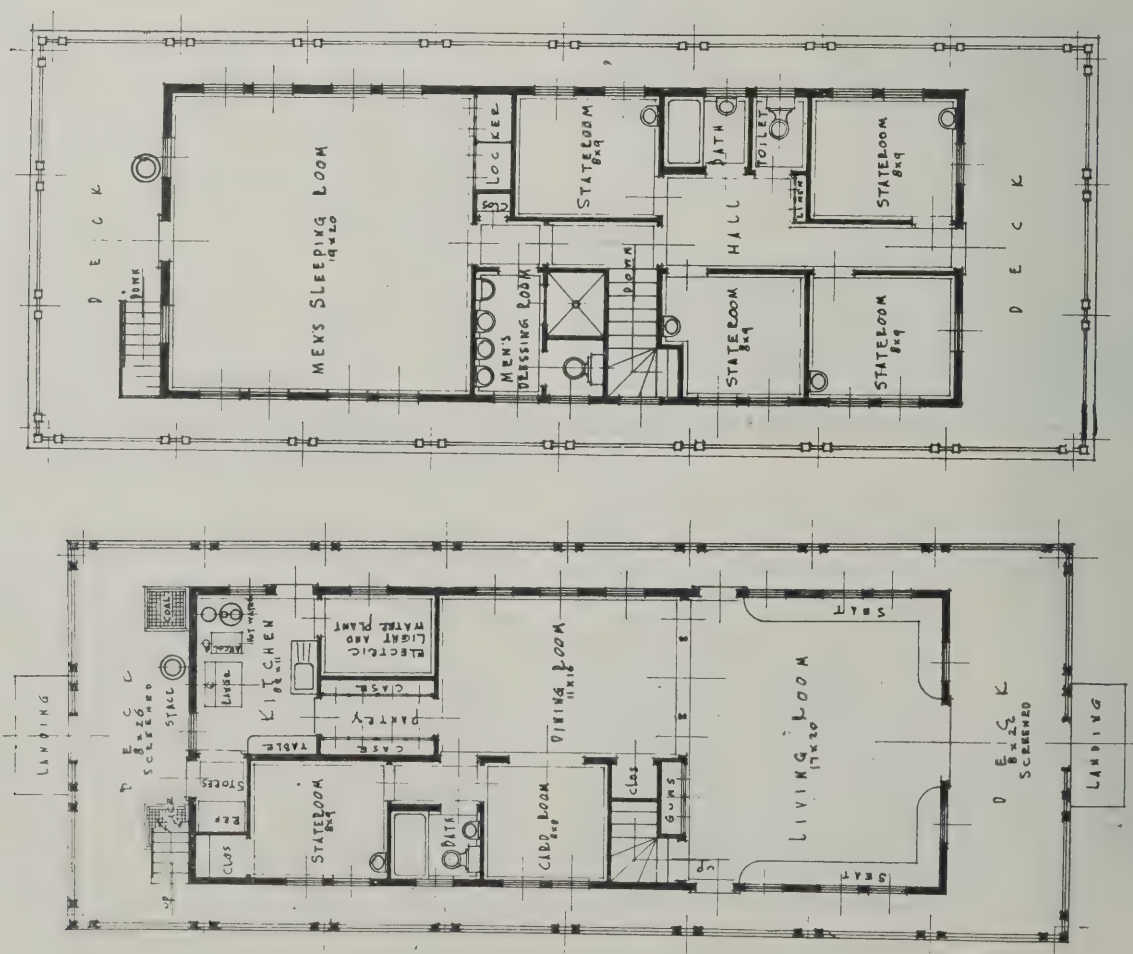
A study of the plans will cause speculation as to why a more or less elemental structural idea—that of carrying partitions over one another—was disregarded, and the men's sleeping room placed where it was. The actual condition of use was responsible for this. This houseboat is essentially designed for duck shooting, the marshes lie largely to the rear of the anchorage and the anchorage itself is simply a cut in the side of the Intercoastal Canal, the bow of the houseboat facing the canal. It was desired that the men's quarters be easily reached by the hunter as he returned from the marsh and as it is actually arranged, the hunter may step from his pirogue, go up the rear outside stairway and reach his quarters without tracking through the main part of the houseboat. Also, it was desired that the quarters for the ladies (which is the intent of the four upper staterooms and bath) be in the bow and easily accessible from the living room.

Competition News.

WEYBRIDGE HOSPITAL COMPETITION.

Mr. W. A. Pite, the assessor, has placed the designs submitted in the following order, and his report has been adopted by the committee:—

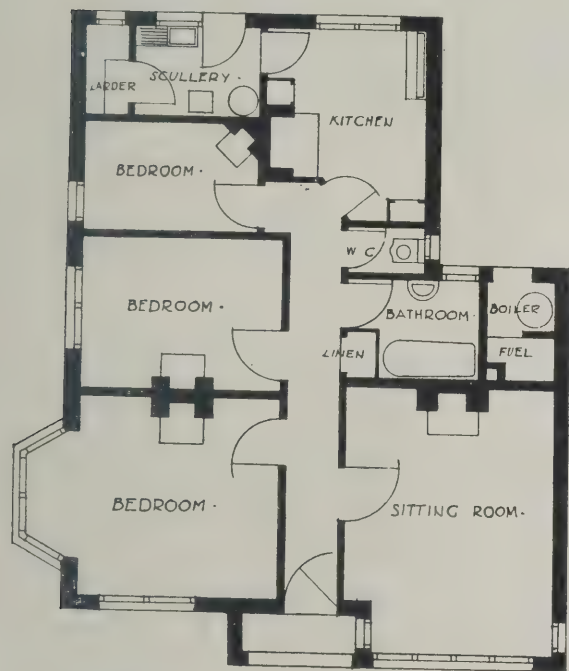
1. Messrs. Kenyon & Livock.
2. J. P. Westwood.
3. Messrs. Lanchester, Lucas & Lodge.



Housing.



FRONT · ELEVATION.



GROUND · FLOOR · PLAN.



BUNGALOW AT POLEGATE, SUSSEX.
WM. H. OVERTON, Architect.

Scotland.

The Fife Coal Co., Ltd., are undertaking a considerable house building programme. It has been mentioned that five hundred houses have been contracted for at Valleyfield ; some are nearly finished, as also are those at Cowdenbeath. At Kelly and Kinglassie operations are just starting.

The Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court passed the following housing plans : two bungalows in Granton Road, another house of the same type at Barony Terrace, Corstorphine, another in Lanark Road, Kingsknowe, a house in Hilview Terrace, Corstorphine.

The City of Edinburgh have issued invitations to building contractors for tenders in respect to 24 houses at Gilmerton and four houses at Longstone. Full particulars will be found on our contracts open page.

Mr. A. D. Haxton, architect, Leven, has invited tenders in connection with the erection of 40 houses at Dundonald.

According to the report of the Dundee Director of Housing, Mr. James Thomson, architect, over one million sterling has been spent by the city on housing. At the end of last March 686 houses were completed. At present 200 additional houses, including 12 tenements, were in the course of erection. Schemes in preparation include 102 tenement houses at Gardner Street and 36 tenement houses at Broughty Ferry. Small cottage

dwellings near Loons Road for owner-occupiers are under consideration as well as the erection of a still further 100 tenement houses. With regard to the Loons Road cottage dwellings for owner-occupiers, the following illustration of the effect of a subsidy grant combined with a loan, assuming the house, including the cost of the street, was £500, was submitted, and shows the amount of the annual payment to an owner-occupier over a period of 20 years :—

Cost of house (including street)	£500
Subsidy of £125 given by Corporation ..	125
Net cost of house	£375
Immediate capital to be provided by the owner (one-third)	125
Leaving a balance to be advanced of (two-thirds)	£250

Assumed rent for rating purposes, £25
Equivalent annual payment to an inclusive rent.

Interest and repayment of principal—equal annual instalments over a period of 20 years	£20 3 0
Feu-duty, say	1 10 0
Repairs (15 per cent. on annual value of house)	3 15 0
Insurance (1s. 6d. per cent. on £500) ..	0 7 6
Owners' rates on rent of £25, at 3s. per £1	3 15 0
Occupiers' rates, say, at 6s. 3d. per £1 on rent of £25	7 16 3
Inhabited House Duty Tax	0 6 3
	£37 13 0

If the cost of the house was above £500 the annual payment would be larger in proportion.

During the discussion which ensued in connection with the contractors' unwillingness to sign a contract which would bind them to complete the houses within a given period, the Turreff Town Council, Aberdeen, thought that it was really the architect's duty to hold the contractors at their work.

The Minister of Health has agreed to the Clydebank Town Council proceeding with the brickwork of the second lot of houses which the Council are erecting on the Whitecrook site by direct labour, on the understanding that the Council meet the excess cost over the amount of the lowest contractor's offer. We are in agreement with the Minister's stipulation, and consider that by making it the whole building trade has every reason to feel that our Government Departments will always serve out impartial judgment.

The Coltness Iron Company propose to erect 72 three-apartment houses at Blairhall and 28 two-apartment dwellings at the same place. The necessary plans have been approved by the Dunfermline District Committee.

Forty houses are to be erected at Dundonald, Cardenden, for the Lochgelly Iron and Coal Co.

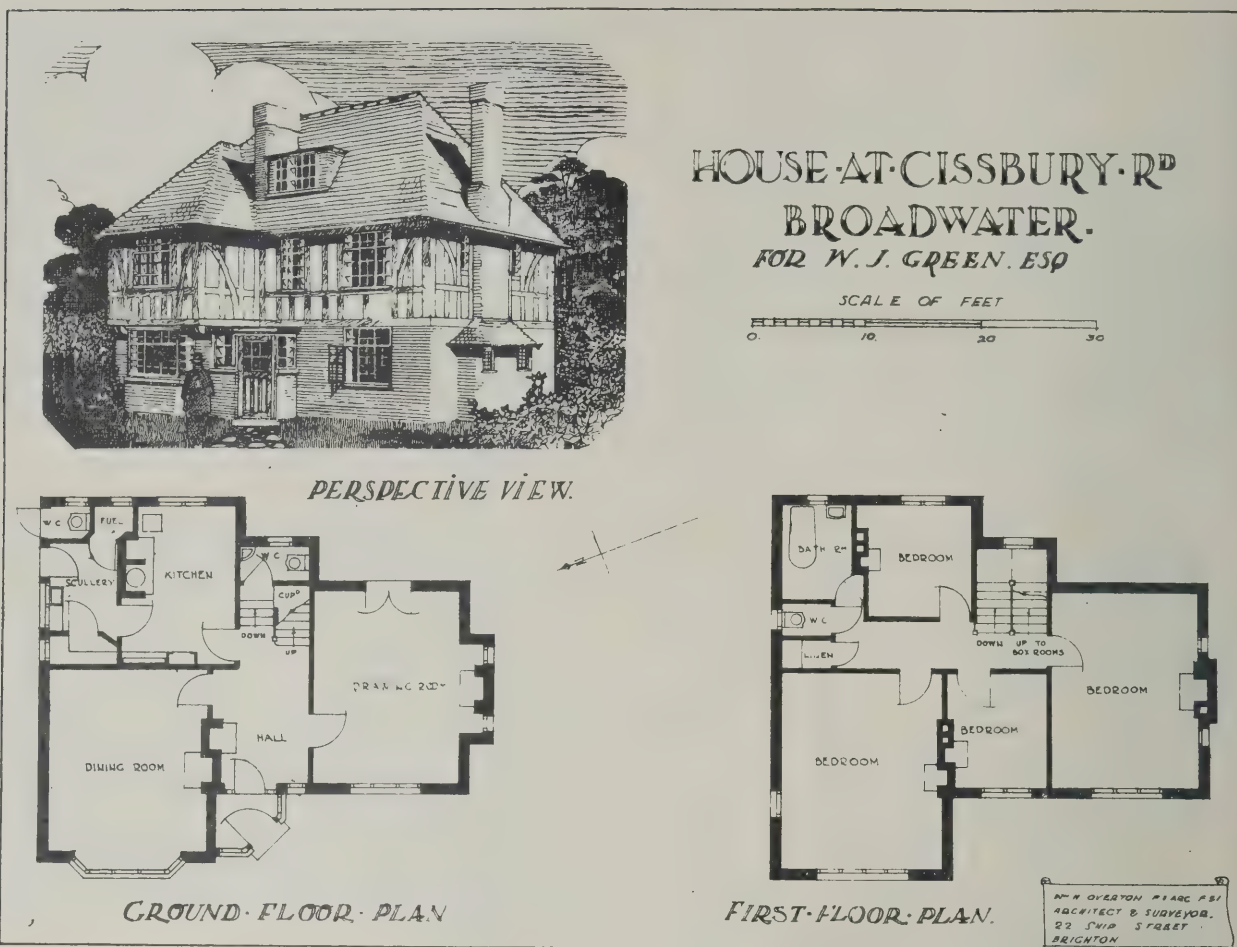
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North of England.

The Rotherham Borough Council recently issued invitations to contractors to tender in respect to the erection of 50 houses on the Eastdene site. Messrs. Baldwin & Co. have been successful in securing the contract from the Council.

The Burnley Housing and Town Planning Committee have recommended the Town Council to petition the Government. We give the outlines of their recommendations :—" That the Town Council petition the Government to introduce legislation into the next session of Parliament dealing with unoccupied houses, particularly those of less than £30 rateable value, which owners refuse to let on a tenancy on the ground that the houses are let for sale. The Committee also propose provisional legislation that in cases where owners refuse to let on a tenancy houses to which the Rent Restriction Acts have ceased to apply



—and after notice given to the owners by the Rating Authority—such houses should be assessable for the payment of rates and taxes as if they were actually occupied. Further, the Committee submit that local authorities should be empowered to withhold their sanction to the approval of plans providing for the alteration into business premises of houses which are available for occupation by the working classes, where such alteration would involve the cessation of the use of the premises as dwelling-houses." Whilst we feel that it must be aggravating to hear on all sides of the serious shortage of accommodation the proposed recommendations interfere with the freedom of the citizen. If a man owns anything, be it a house, a piano, a motor car, or a horse, up to the present time it has been held that he is at liberty to please himself as to what he does with it irrespective of the needs of the community. The Burnley Housing and Town Planning Committee's recommendations endeavour to justify an interference in these long-established and dearly-bought privileges, with which we emphatically disagree.

Messrs. Henry Boot & Sons, Ltd., London and Sheffield, have secured the contract from the Bradford Health Committee for the erection of 200 concrete houses at Bierley Hall estate at a cost of £418 per house.

At a recent meeting of the Lancaster Town Council the whole difficulty of the housing shortage was stated in a very few words:—"When labour was limited the Corporation were tied down accordingly." Three hundred genuine applications for houses were on the Corporation books, but as this authority could not give any idea of the number of bricklayers that would be at the disposal of the contractors the Corporation were unable to state how many houses could be erected within the next twelve months.

The plans for ten houses have been passed by the Urban District Council of Altofts. It is proposed to erect them in Church Road.

The Urban District Council of Bingley had the plans for three bungalows before them, two on Cottingley Moor and one at Dowley Gap Lane.

South and West of England.

We read in a contemporary journal of the efforts which have been made by a public utility society known as "Women's Pioneer Housing." This society was formed for the purpose of acquiring large residential houses and adapting them to flats for professional working women at moderate rents. The society is long past the experimental stage, since a steady

dividend of 6 per cent. has been paid and the future prospects are very bright as the committee possess a long waiting list of would-be tenants.

The Bermondsey Borough Council propose to send a deputation to the L.C.C. to protest against the proposed erection of five-storied dwellings in Tower Bridge Road.

A contemporary journal informs us that in consequence of our only producing two thousand five hundred million bricks per year we could not build 200,000 houses. Further we are informed that these houses would need more than double the number of bricks that we produce at home, namely 5,700,000,000. In addition a shortage of two-thirds exists in slates and roofing tiles and twelve thousand to fifteen thousand tons in light castings. On the face of these facts our contemporary seems to wish to justify the Trade Unions refusal to "dilute."

We read that the new Minister of Health has found a formula in respect to dilution. The Ministry, we read, is resolved to keep the rents of the new houses down to a figure which the lowest-paid worker will be able to afford. In return the operatives are to agree to a stabilisation of wages.

We still have to report a remarkable preference for the bungalow type of house. Our issue of January 26 gave a number of very carefully planned examples of this type. The Hursley Rural District Council passed the plans for four such houses in different parts of their district.

Three were passed by the Bath Corporation amongst other types of houses, which included eight in First Avenue.

A number of bungalows are to be erected near Toft Steps, Bournemouth, and tenders will be invited for the work.

The Baldwin's estate is to be developed at Bexley. The Urban District Council passed the plans for the first 75 houses. It is proposed to erect about 700 on the estate.

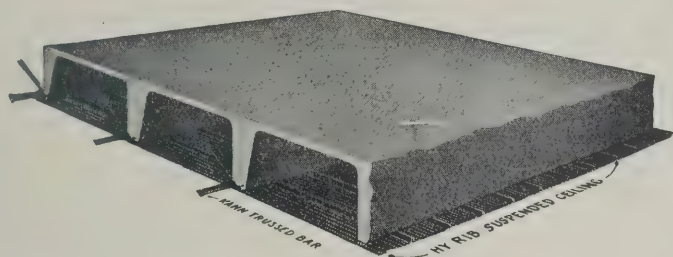
Midlands.

Messrs. Brown & Burgess, architects, who recently received instructions to design 28 tenements, each to contain a living room, two bedrooms, scullery, pantry, coal-house, and W.C., issued invitations to Ipswich builders to tender for the erection of these tenements. Messrs. Pollard & Skerrett being the lowest have secured the contract.

Twenty-four "B" type houses and 16 "C" type houses are to be erected by the Willenhall Urban Council. The cost of the "B" type houses has been estimated at £365 each; the "C" type at £313.

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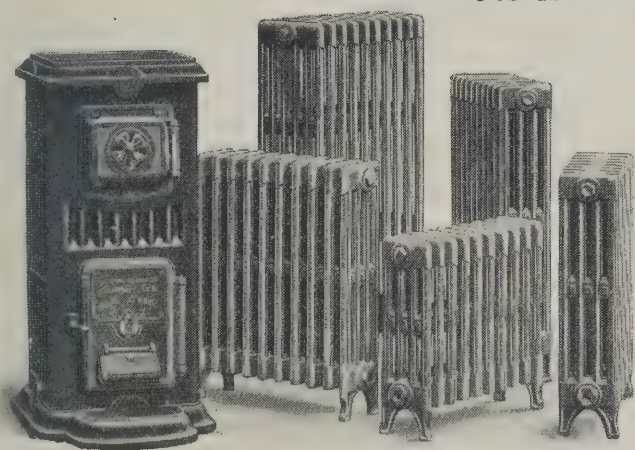
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General News.

North of England.

A new children's ward is to be erected at the infirmary at Leigh, Lancashire. The Governors have allocated £15,000 for this purpose.

Mr. Herbert Wade, architect, of 4 Birley Street, Blackpool, has prepared the plans for the alterations of the Union Bank of Manchester, Blackpool, which are of a very extensive character. The granite front is to be extended by 20 ft.

A proposal to adapt Rufford Hall as a hospital for diseases of chest—to accommodate 40 patients—is before the Lancashire County Council. The alteration will cost nearly £8,000.

A large two-storey café and sheltered walk is to be built at the southern end of the Scarborough promenade. The estimated cost of these improvements is given at £14,000.

Mr. W. Dixon, architect, of Sheffield, has prepared the plans for a model public house to be erected in Portland Road, Shirebrook, for the Tennant Bros., Ltd. The cost of the building is estimated at £10,000.

A new infirmary is to be built at Doncaster. A Building and Finance Sub-committee has been appointed to deal with the selection of an architect. We hope that the committee will see fit to organise an architectural competition in this connection. £200,000 are apparently available for this scheme. Messrs. Percy S. Worthington and Francis Jones, architects, have been appointed to prepare plans for the new Manchester Grammar School.

A new secondary school for girls is to be erected at a cost of £28,800 at Harpurhey. The Manchester Education Committee have received permission to borrow the above amount for this purpose.

Scotland.

There is a proposal on foot for the launching of a petition by the Hawick Town Council to the Postmaster General requesting the latter to erect and equip a branch post office for the west end of Hawick.

The National Bank of Scotland have purchased a site at the corner of West Clyde Street and the east side of Colquhoun Street, Helensburgh, for the purpose of erecting banking premises.

North Leith Manse is to be purchased by the Leith Town Council. The site will be used for a new town hall and branch library for Leith.

A scheme for the erection of a new slaughter-house, which will cost about £60,000, is before the Greenock Corporation.

Messrs. Watson Salmond & Gray, architects, of Glasgow, who are engaged on the alterations and additions which are being effected on the old portion of the Municipal Buildings, suggest that the Council Hall should be enlarged. They consider that this should be done by bringing out the central feature in George Square. The larger order of architecture adopted in the George and Cochrane Streets central features will be utilised here. The present entrance doors, with their carved friezes over, will not be disturbed, but will present the same appearance under the portico. The portico will have the effect of forming a covered entrance to the buildings. This addition, it is pointed out, will have the effect of greatly enhancing the dignity of the frontage to George Square. According to the plans, the Lord Provost is to be provided with an ante-room, which will occupy the space under the present gallery. The seating gives accommodation for 130 members of Council, 12 officials, with ample space for the press and the public.

A new clubhouse is to be erected at Ardrossan, at an estimated cost of £1,200.

In Sandgate Street, Ayr, the Scottish Motor Transport Co., of Kilmarnock, propose to erect offices and a motorbus station with workshops.

The Education Authority for Edinburgh has invited tenders from contractors and specialists for work connected with the erection of a new elementary school at James Place, Leith. Full particulars will be found on our Contracts Open page.

The Glasgow Corporation are considering the question of holding an International Exhibition in Glasgow.

The Aberdeen Town Council have a scheme in view for the erection of baths, and it is their intention to seek powers to borrow £100,000 for the erection of these buildings.

Midlands.

The local Trades and Labour Club Institute plans for Newton have been approved by the Trowbridge Urban District Council.

Messrs. Chessums, Ltd., have secured the contract for the erection of the New Post Office wireless station at Rugby.

The work is to be started at once and also includes the construction of half a mile of new roads to give access to the site.

The Derby Corporation propose to erect a motor garage in Ford Street to accommodate 20 motor lorries at a cost of £6,800.

At a cost of £10,000 a new Liberal Club is to be built at Barwell, Leicestershire.

The nurses' home at Coventry is to be enlarged. The guardians have submitted an application to the Ministry of Health for permission to borrow £5,200.

South and West of England.

The enlargement of the Bournemouth Secondary School for girls is under the consideration of the Education Committee.

The Torquay authorities have under their consideration a scheme for the erection of a new hospital, the present building being totally unable to cope with the needs of the town.

We read in a London contemporary that Sir Oswald Stoll proposes to erect a variety theatre, winter garden and cinema at Brighton. We should have thought that the Regent Theatre, which has been recognised as the finest picture theatre yet built, would have tapped the needs of Brighton, especially as a winter garden and ball-room have recently been erected on the former roof of this theatre. Most probably Sir Oswald Stoll has a greater knowledge of these matters than ourselves. In any case we feel sure he will aim at erecting a building of architectural merit.

The Bournemouth police station is to be enlarged. An application to borrow £6,000 for this purpose has been sent to the Ministry of Health.

The Corporation are also building new shelters to accommodate 700 people.

New footbridges are to be constructed at Boscombe Chine and Alum Chine.

The Paddington licensing justices have passed the plans for the alterations to the Stafford Hotel, Harrow Road, the "Devonshire Castle" in the same road, the Westbourne Hotel and the "Prince Alfred" in Queen's Road.

A new mortuary and coroner's inquiry room is to be built at Reading; the borough engineer is preparing the necessary plans.

For some time past we have noted announcements in the Press respecting the proposed rebuilding of Croydon Aerodrome. The war buildings are to be demolished, and the whole scheme reconstructed so as to meet the needs of a regular Continental air service for passengers and goods.

Lord Radnor recently offered to present to the Folkestone Town Council Kingsnorth Gardens as a site for new municipal buildings and Turkish and medicated baths. The Town Council has accepted his lordship's offer.

The Public Library, Hampstead, is to be extended; the new buildings are estimated to cost £9,163.

The watering places on the South Coast are very busy erecting places of amusement and entertainment for their visitors. Hastings has a scheme for the erection of a music pavilion on the old East Sussex Hospital site, which is to be known as the White Rock Pavilion, and will probably cost about £100,000 to build.

New public baths are also to be erected at the cost of £4,150.

Wales.

A donation of £5,000 has been promised by the managing director of the Horden Colliery Co. on behalf of the company towards the erection of 50 homes for aged miners. Twenty are to be built at Horden, a similar number at Shotton, and ten at Blachall.

The Flintshire Education Committee propose to erect a new school at Bagillt.

The Tower House, Bangor, is to be purchased by the Urban District Council and converted into a museum.

The Town Council of Llanelly are negotiating for a site on which to build a public abattoir.

The Swansea Corporation Markets Committee propose to erect a new reinforced concrete slaughter-house at Gorse Road. They have instructed the architect to prepare an estimate of the probable costs.



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Architect:
Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

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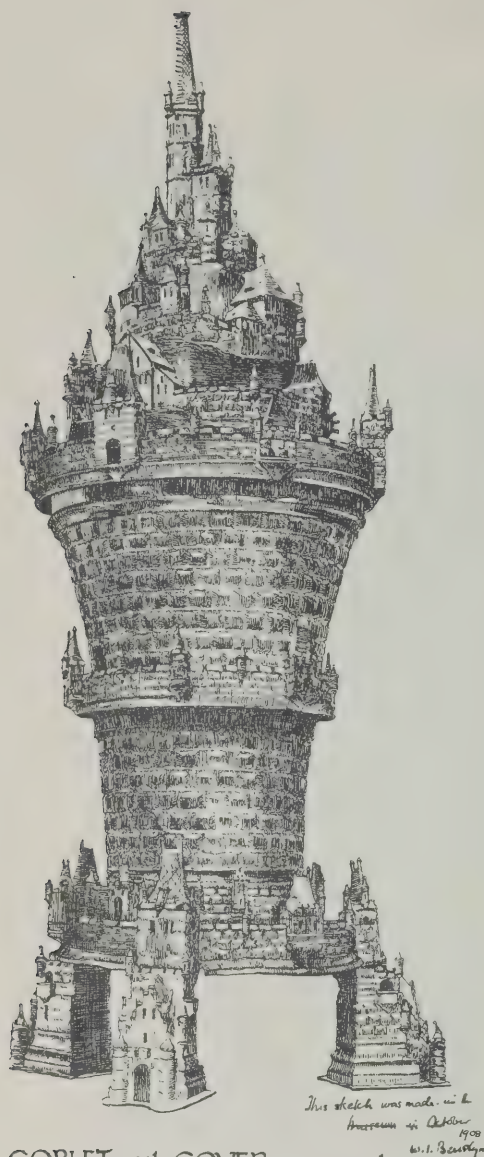
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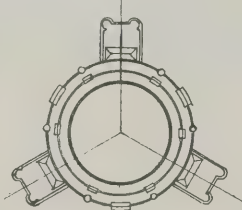
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Sketch Plan
(not to scale)

Sketch by WILLIAM T. BENSLYN.

The Building Committee of the Derry Infirmary Board are to examine the various needs of the hospital at Londonderry. A new wing to provide nursing quarters and a building to act as a nurses' home is part of the programme.

Orders have been placed in Birmingham during the past three weeks for 1,500 houses to be erected in concrete instead of using bricks.

One thousand concrete houses are being built in Edinburgh, 200 in Swansea. There is also a possibility of 500 houses being built in the same material by the Tilbury Council.

The Liverpool Corporation have 17,000 applications for houses on their books, and have borrowed £75,000 for the purpose of paying subsidies on 1,000 houses.

The Manchester Housing Committee propose to erect 484 houses according to prepared plans on a site of 41 acres in extent; each house is to cost £543.

A report from a recent meeting of the Atherstone District Council reads that the Council's annual loss on a house costing

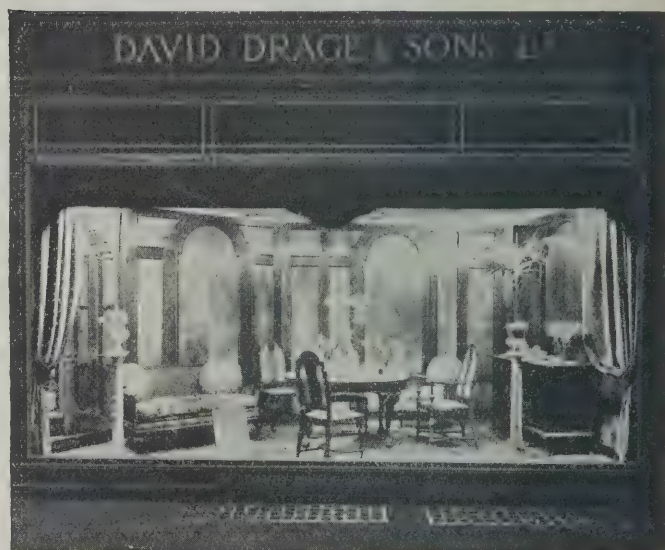
£350 with £120 for developed land would be £34 after receiving the £6 subsidy from the Government. If we add the cost of erection and the land development charge together the total amounts to £470. If we calculate the rate of interest at 5 per cent. such a sum would produce £23 10s. If we double this amount and deduct the Government subsidy from the total the annual charge to be met by the Council and tenant is £41 for twenty years after which the capital will have been repayed. If the Atherstone Council charge £7 per year rent for these houses, of course their estimated loss of £34 per year is realised. Our calculations have not taken into consideration the value of compound interest, which would every year reduce the interest charge on the £470 originally borrowed and thus lessen the charge to be met every year.

The Cardiff Plans Committee passed the designs for 56 houses to be erected in various parts of the town.

We read that there are 960 empty houses in Birmingham, and that the City Council are endeavouring to arrive at some decision in respect to this matter.

On condition that the work is started before March 15 the plans for 23 houses, all eligible for the Government subsidy, were passed by the Ammanford local authorities.

The Lighting of a Furniture Store Window.



There are few types of merchandise which lend themselves better to artistic arrangement and treatment by attractive lighting effects than furniture, and the windows of furnishing firms present a very wonderful opportunity for the window-dresser to demonstrate his art to the very best possible purpose if only electric lighting arrangements of the correct design are available.

By courtesy of Messrs. David Drage & Sons, Ltd., we are able to reproduce herewith a photograph of one of the windows of this firm, which has recently been re-built and equipped with up-to-date window lighting equipment on the Gecoray System.

The usual system of a row of reflectors on the ceiling close to the glass has been adopted in this instance, the Gecoray Mirror Glass Reflectors being placed approximately 12 inches apart. Some 40 reflectors are used in all, and these are wired on two separate circuits in order that alternate units may be used.

This arrangement makes possible the use of the full power of the installation or only one half, and alternatively colour changing effects can be obtained by having all the lamps on one circuit fitted with Gecoray Colour Screens, the remainder being left clear.

To supplement the lighting from these reflectors, five G.E.C. Window Floodlights and five Spotlights have been installed, and these are adjustable so that their rays can be trained on any specific object in the window to which special attention is required to be directed.

The installation was designed by the Illuminating Engineering Department of the G.E.C., and the photograph reproduced herewith testifies to the success attained.

Messrs. David Drage & Sons, Ltd., are keenly alive to the publicity value of their windows, and make a practice of leaving them illuminated until late at night, when the lights are extinguished by means of a G.E.C. Time Switch.

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Why not an Institute Referendum ?

The circulars sent to members of the Institute, and signed by Mr. A. W. S. Cross and Mr. Sydney Perks, and the other by the Secretary and Hon. Secretary of the R.I.B.A. protesting against the issue of the first, raise an interesting question. Both may be said to be private documents, as they are addressed only to members of the R.I.B.A. No one would object to any member of the R.I.B.A. stating his opinions to any other member or to writing to his friends on any subject. We confess we do not see the objection to an open circular letter addressed to every member or any impropriety in issuing such a statement.

It is argued that the result of the last Council election showed an overwhelming majority in favour of what is called Unification, but we think that the appeal to the members issued by those at present in office was chiefly based on the argument that the Council should be composed of the most eminent members of the profession, an entirely different proposition. Whether we are right or wrong, this point does not seem to us to be quite clear. Again, assuming we are wrong and that the issue was Unification, it does not follow that the electorate which approved of a general principle would endorse any specific interpretation of that principle. Again, it is not clear to us that the electorate in 1924 will vote exactly as they did in 1923, nor is it certain that those who did not vote in 1923 will abstain in 1924, or that many who voted last May will not abstain next May.

There is one way in which this question can be determined, and that is not by the means of a Council election, but by a referendum, which could be easily arranged, in which every member was asked to answer certain specific questions, the result to determine the future policy of the R.I.B.A. on this particular issue.

If such a process were adopted on this and any other debatable issue which may in the future arise, there is no reason why the elections of the R.I.B.A. should not be conducted on absolutely non-party lines, which all agree is desirable and which the present Council consider as being especially so.

But until this is done there is every probability that controversial issues will be dealt with in the time-honoured manner by balancing the votes of those who are in favour of a certain project against those who oppose it. To believe that anything else can happen is to our mind absurd.

It must be remembered that any other course of procedure is similar to giving a section or party a blank cheque, a course which seldom commends itself to those who think they should have a voice in an important question.

We do not know what would have happened had the late Government, instead of appealing to the electorate on the subject of Free Trade *v.* Protection, passed a Referendum Bill, but we do know that had they done so they would have been in office to-day and would at the same time have clearly expressed their own

views. A similar course might very conceivably strengthen the hands of the present Council and render the election of those on their next Council list more and not less certain than they otherwise would be.

We are not restating the arguments of either one or other of the protagonists in this disputed question, but simply indicating a course which would obviate what is held to be undesirable.

If we assume that we are to work for a larger measure of Unification, will not our work be more effectual and successful if we have once for all and beyond controversy settled what it is the members of the R.I.B.A. really desire? And if they are opposed to such a measure, is it not more satisfactory that it should be definitely abandoned now than that its success should be jeopardised at a future date by a vote at some meeting or other?

From the outside architect's point of view nothing could be more irritating than to be led to believe that certain privileges are to be given or a certain status offered, and then to find these privileges or this status withheld.

We point out what seems to us to be the way to a definite and final agreement—a desideratum devoutly to be wished—and we are convinced that those who are honestly opposed to so-called Unification would willingly agree to issue no circulars or appeals to members on the question if the Council would settle with them as to the terms of the alternatives to be put to the electorate.

Political discussions take place between people holding very diverse views without ill-humour being manifested on either side, and surely this should apply to what are, after all, minor differences between men of the same calling.

Belief or disbelief in Unification, Registration, or any other question should not separate men into hostile camps, though it will inevitably do so if a disposition is shown to regard those who hold either view as being outside the pale.

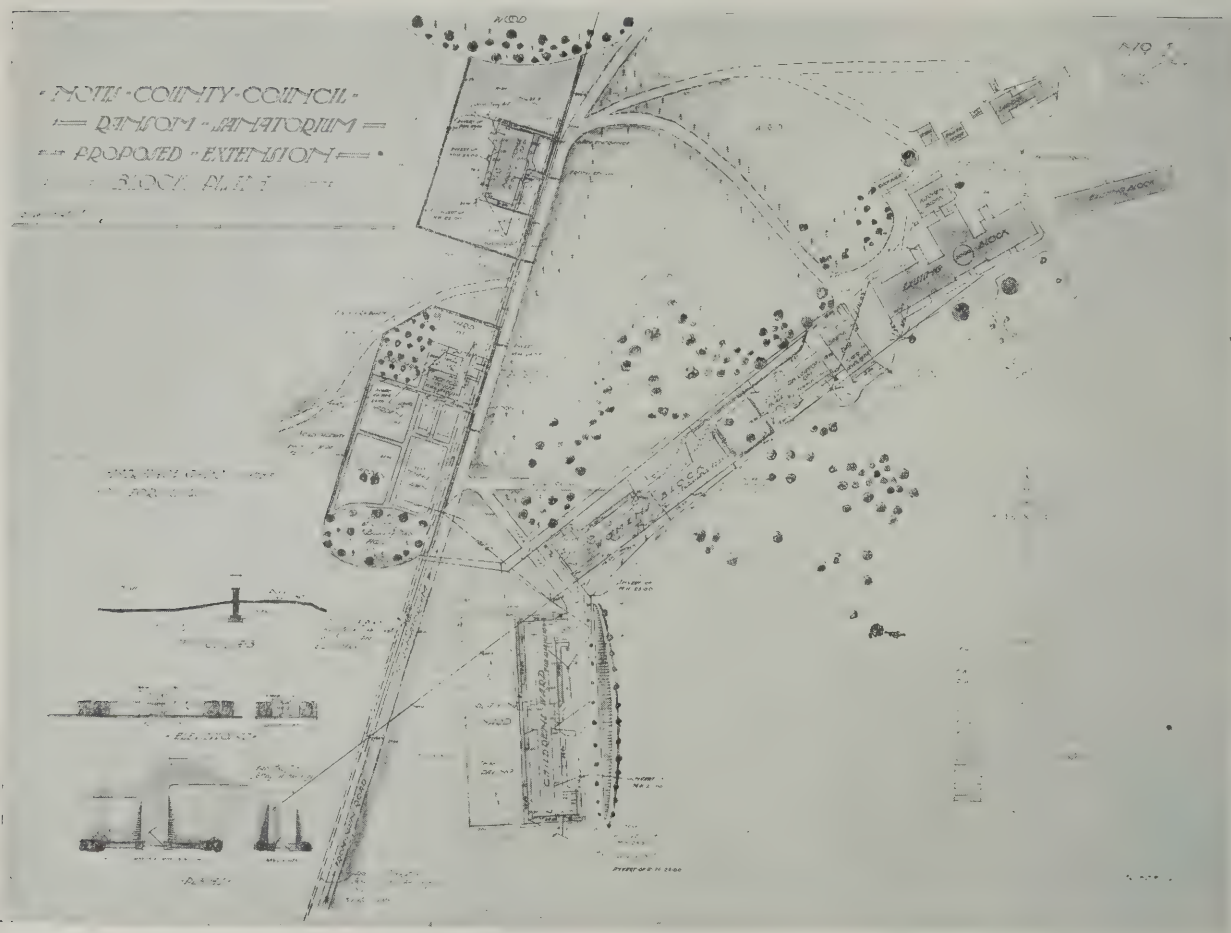
In a word, the question has to be fought out, and the present Council have during the next few months to decide how it can be best fought out. They can apply the referendum and abide by the issue so determined. But if they do not, they cannot complain if those who do not agree with their views follow in May, 1924, the precedent they themselves set in May, 1923, nor can they persuade the average man that a 2 to 1 majority in favour of electing a certain list of men in 1923 means a 2 to 1 majority for any scheme of Unification which may be settled by the present Council. It may be that it means an even greater majority in favour of the definite scheme, but it may, on the other hand, mean the melting away of a majority obtained before a definite scheme was formulated.

These questions can only be settled in one of two ways—either by a referendum, as we advocate, or possibly by a series of Council elections which promise in such a case to be as acutely political as that of last year.

Our Illustrations.

CHURCH OF NOTRE DAME, CAUDEBEC, NORMANDY. Measured and drawn by W. T. BENSLYN.

RANSOM SANATORIUM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. L. MAGGS, County Architect.



RANSOM SANATORIUM BLOCK PLAN. L. MAGGS, County Architect.

Ransom Sanatorium, near Mansfield, Notts.

L. MAGGS, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., County Architect.

This institution was originally built in 1902-3 for 20 beds, by the Nottingham and Notts Association for the Prevention of Consumption, on 50 acres of land on Sherwood Forest, the gift of the Duke of Portland. In 1914, with the passing of the National Health Insurance Act, the Sanatorium was leased by the County Council at a nominal rent.

In 1917 a new ward of 12 beds was added by the County Council and by the addition of shelters the number of beds was raised to 50.

In 1919 the Voluntary Association presented the Sanatorium and 50 acres of land to the County Council, the Duke of Portland making a further gift of 50 acres; the total area being 100 acres.

In the same year the County Council decided to increase the accommodation by 80 in two blocks for women and children. Provision was also made for a residence for the Medical Superintendent, Nurses' Home, Patients' Dining and Recreation Room, Assistant Medical Officer's Quarters, X-ray Room, Operating Theatre, Laboratory, etc.

The new wards are built on a concrete raft with 2 in.

reinforced "Grip" partition bricks plastered both sides strengthened by brick piers, the sanitary annexes being built of brick. The roofs are covered with asbestos slates.

The other buildings are built of brick and rough casted with slated roofs.

Electric plant was installed for light and laundry power.

The buildings were completed and opened in the summer of 1923 and are now fully occupied.

The cost has amounted to about £50,000 and the cost of equipping and furnishing £4,300.

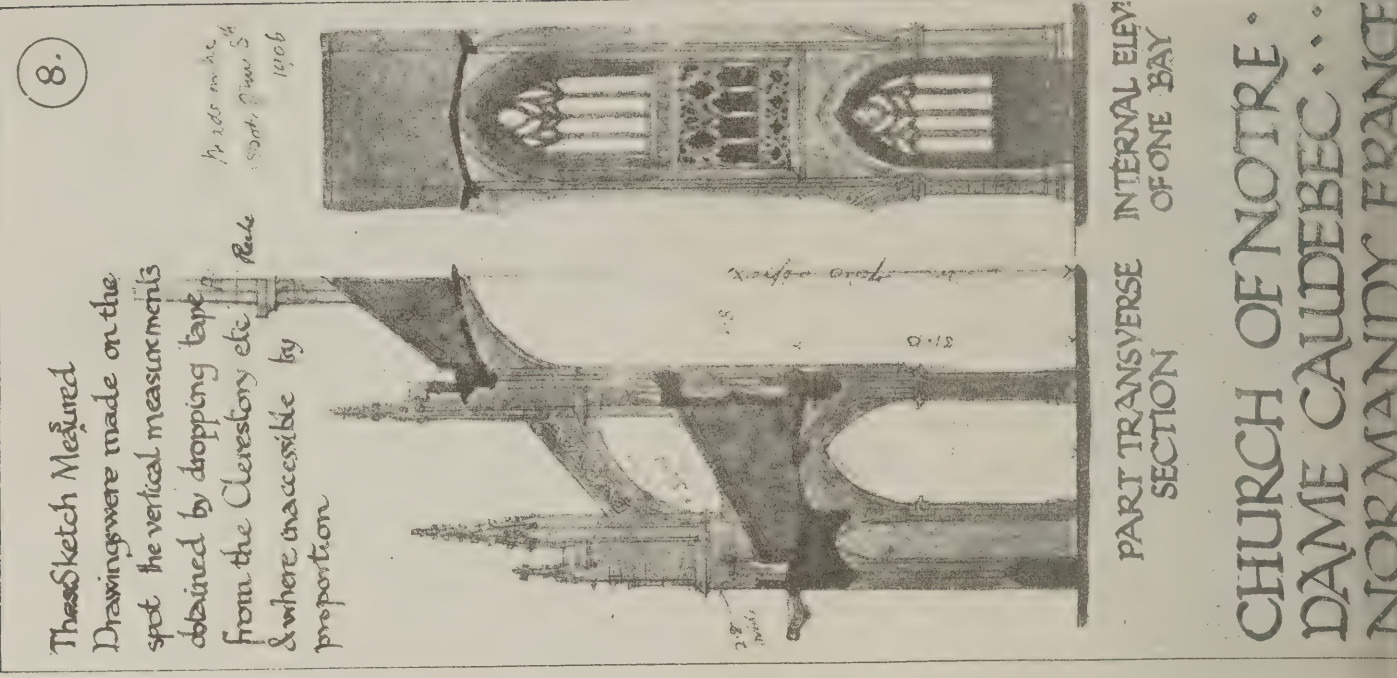
■ The general contractors were Messrs. J. Greenwood (Mansfield), Ltd., Mansfield, Notts; the steel construction work was carried out by Messrs. G. Sands & Sons, Ltd., Colwick, Notts, who also constructed the fire escapes. Messrs. Wing & Webb, Ltd., Wolverhampton, supplied the door and window furniture, as well as the general ironmongery. The electric light fittings and wiring work was carried out by Messrs. Henry Barkers, Ltd., Nottingham. The sanitary fittings and grates and chimney pieces were supplied and fitted by Messrs. Doulton & Co., Lambeth. Messrs. Thos. Danks & Co., Ltd., Nottingham, also supplied grates and chimney pieces.

Notes and Comments.**Rent Restrictions Bill.**

During the discussion in Parliament recently on the above measure some very enlightening remarks were made which demonstrate that politicians are realising that this Act greatly hinders the erection of houses by private enterprise. We quote some remarks: "In the old days the supply was greater than the demand, and was a protection for the tenants. Rent restriction had stopped the provision of houses. It was a business and when the rightful profits were interfered with

people would no longer put their money into building or buying houses." "Until members got rid of the silly notion of taxing land values we should never get this housing question settled by proposals such as were mentioned in the measure under discussion. They were frightening people from building houses as they did by Mr. Lloyd George's Act of 1910." "A yearly rent restriction Bill would be an incentive to Governments to get on with their housing schemes. Even with a 40 per cent. increase house property did not pay." "They wanted to

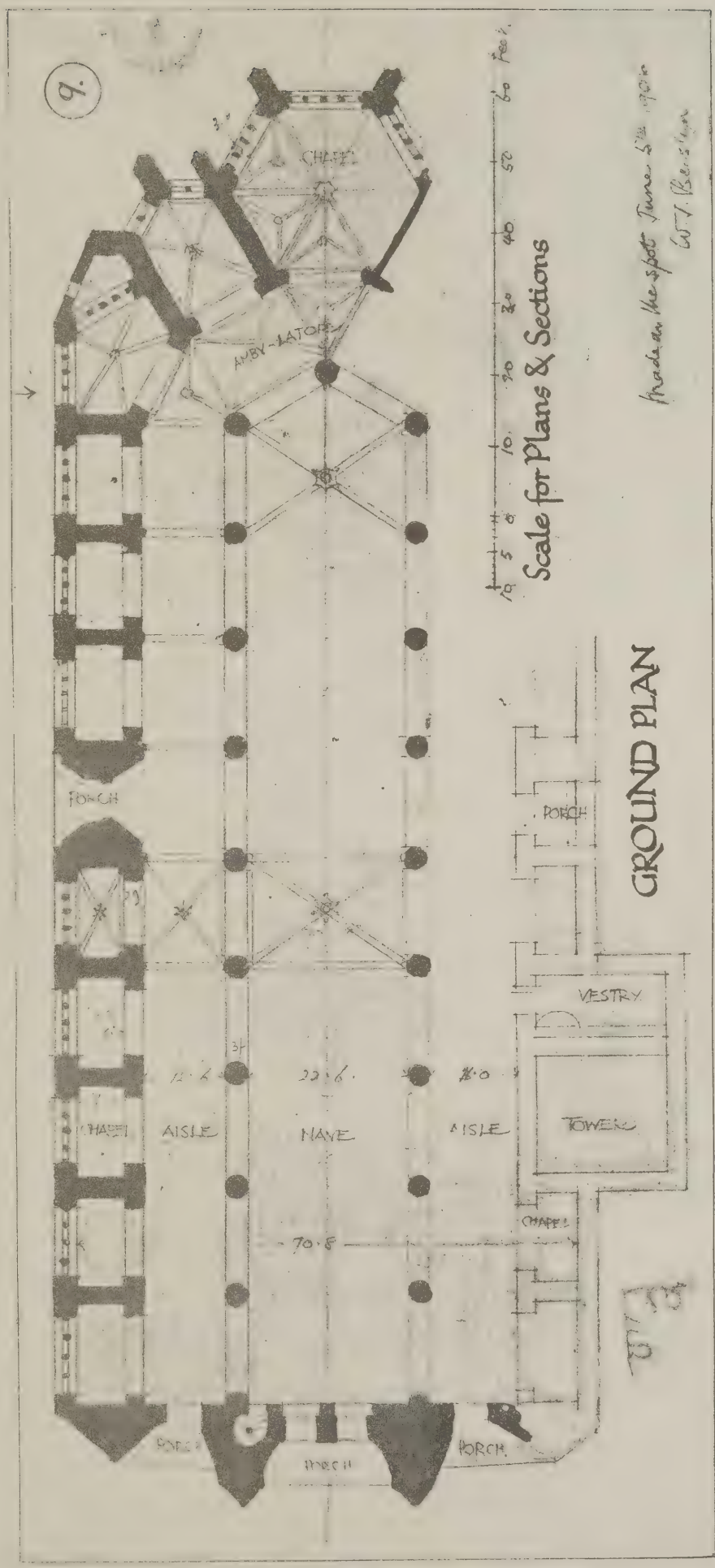
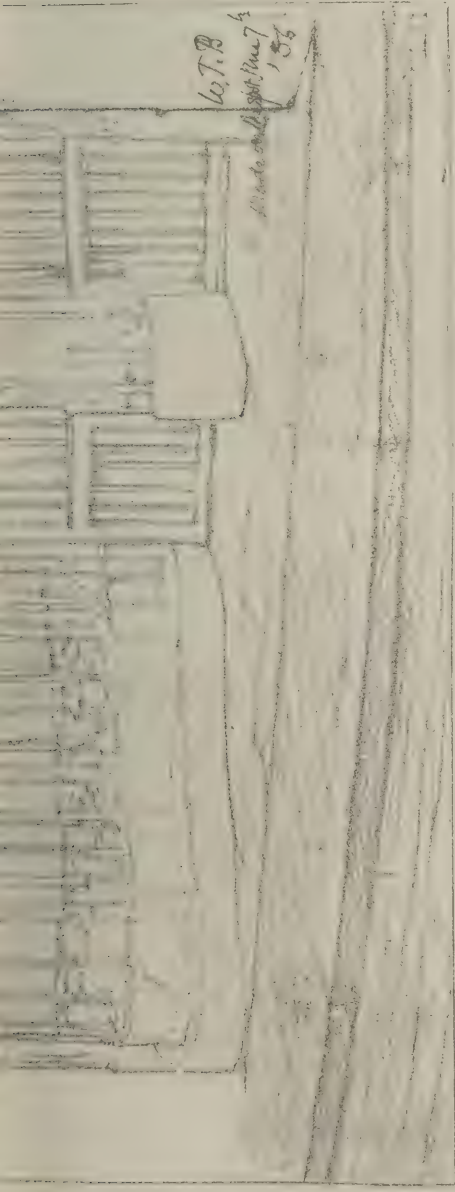
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ARCHT. THE TWO WESTERN BAYS IN 1500-17 A.D. (L'ABBE COCHET)

SOME NOTABLE FEATURES ARE—
 THE TOWER WITH TRIPLE FLORAL CROWN IS 330 FT HIGH
 THE PIERCED PARAPETS ARE IN THE FORM OF GOTHIC LETTERING
 THE WESTERN DOORWAYS—SEE THE SKETCH OF CENTRAL ONE

W.T. Benslyn



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- NOTTS. COUNTY COUNCIL -
- RANSOM SANATORIUM -
- PROPOSED NURSES HOME -

172 7/8

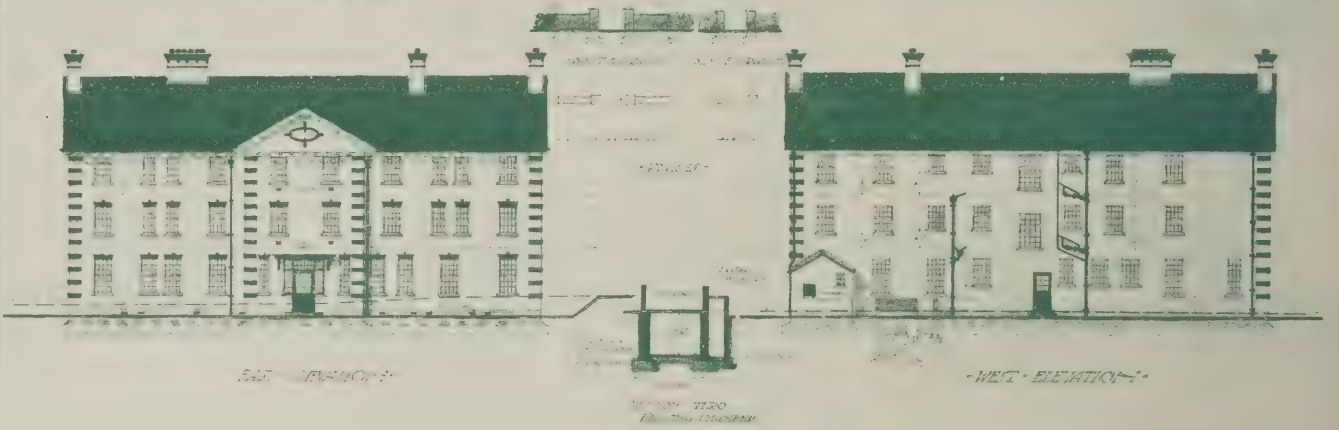
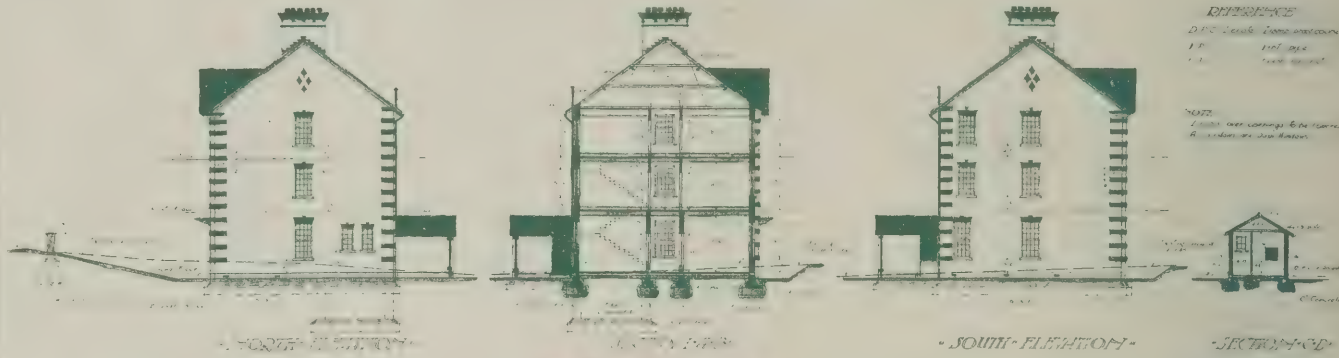
Scale 1/4" = 1 foot



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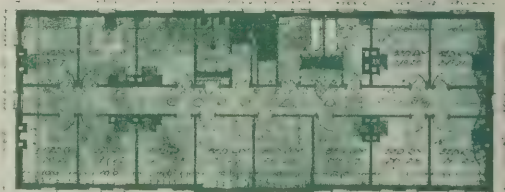
0.00' Level (some variations)
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1.00' Level (some variations)

NOTE:
1. All elevations are to be taken from the level of the sea.
2. All elevations are to be taken from the level of the sea.

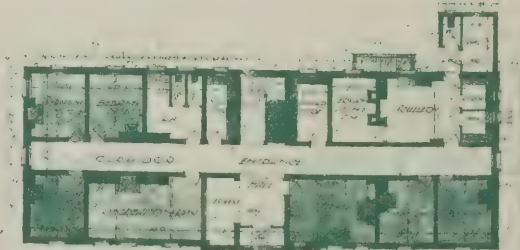


FIRST FLOOR PLAN

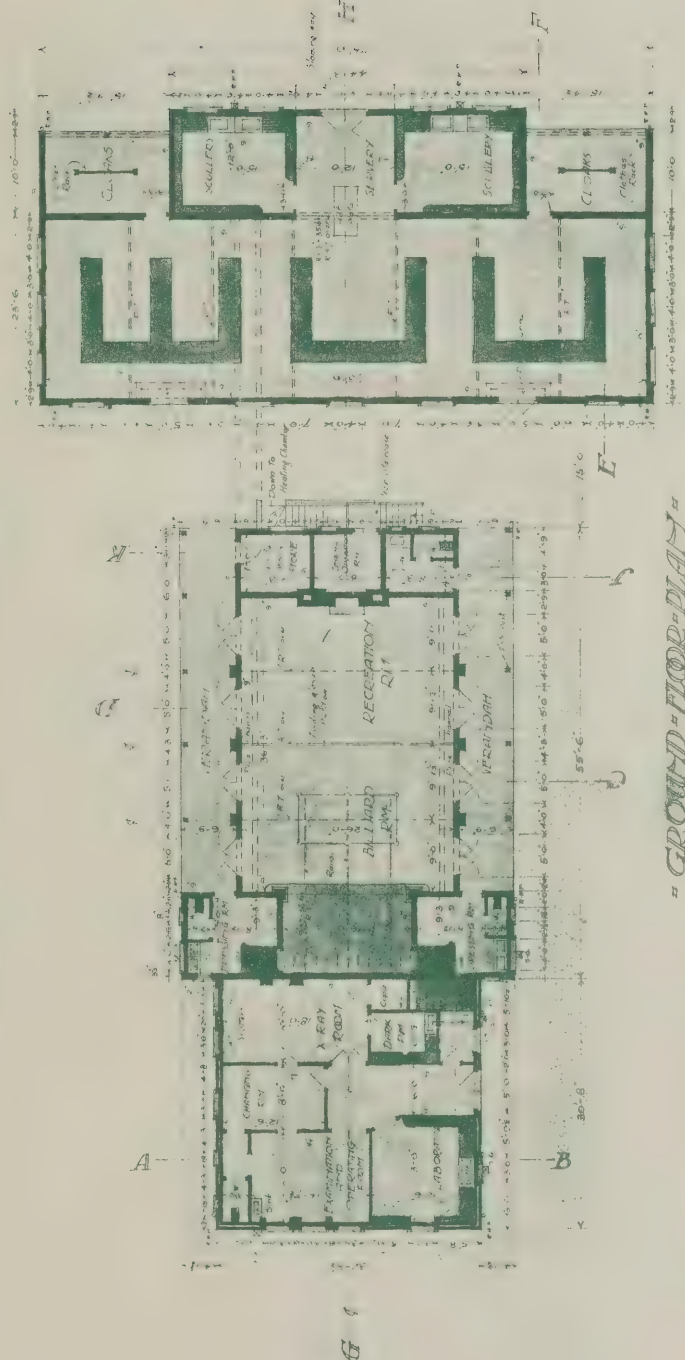
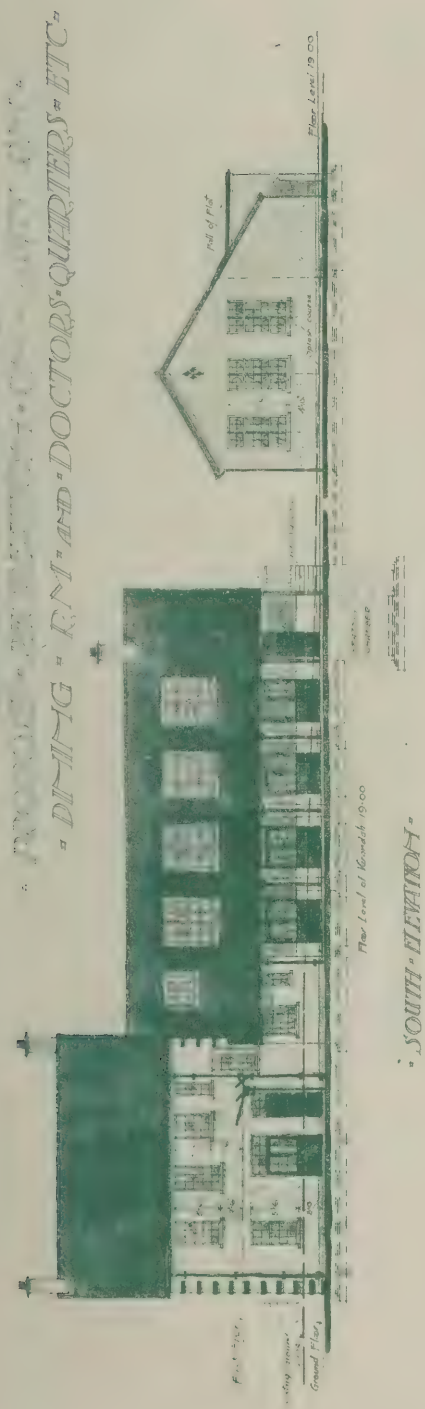
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SECOND FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



L. MAGGS, PRIMA FIC
COUNTY ARCHITECT
JAMES HALL, NORWICH, 1924

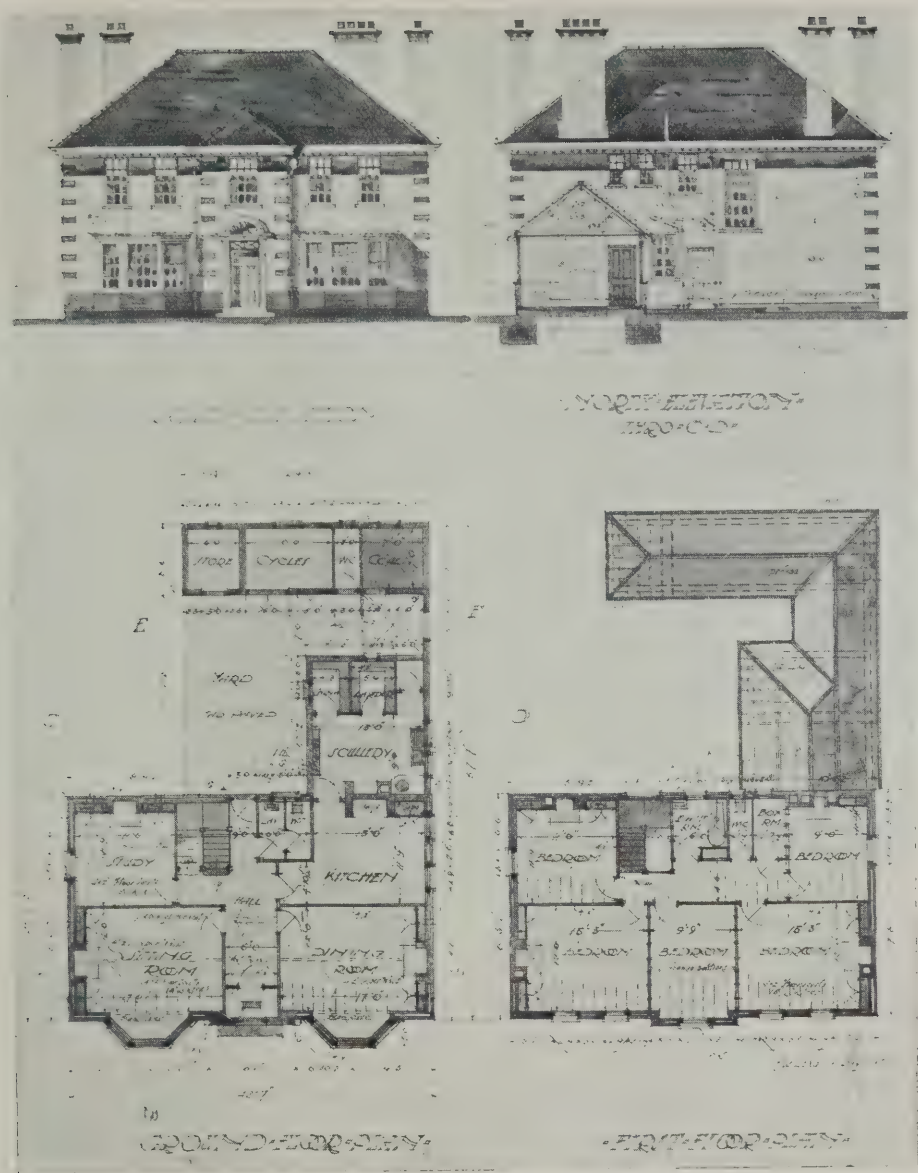
"INK-PRIMO" W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.2.

RANSOM SANATORIUM, NOTTS.

RECREATION, X-RAY AND DINING ROOM AND DOCTORS' QUARTERS.

L. MAGGS, COUNTY ARCHITECT.

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PROPOSED HOUSE FOR RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICER.
RANSOM SANATORIUM, NOTTS. L. MAGGS, County Architect.

get houses built. This Bill would not do anything to get houses built or even repaired. What inducement was there to a landlord to repair when the allowance for repairs was to be cut down ? The Bill did not contain a single clause that would cause a single house to be built which was not likely to be built under the 1923 Act. It was inspired with a bitter anxiety to make the ownership of houses uneconomical and indeed impossible. Mr. Kirkwood was perfectly honest about the matter, and stated the Labour Party's policy when he said they wanted to make it impossible for private individuals to own the homes of the people. Nothing was more likely to bring despair to the hearts of those who were waiting for houses than this declaration of the Labour Party's policy."

Concrete Houses. 10150

It would appear that opinions are divided at Swansea, where the biggest experiment yet made in concrete building is to be undertaken. The scheme provides for the erection of 250 houses at a cost, including site, of about £524 per house. Mr. Henry Aldridge, the secretary of the National Housing Council, is very critical of the claims made on behalf of concrete, and is not disposed to accept the view that it is cheaper than brick. He supports his contention by the fact that several local authorities have entered into contracts for brick dwellings at £417-£418 and £423 per house. Sir Charles Ruthen, the Director-General of Housing, has also expressed a preference for brick. The authorities are agreed that before a final judgment can be delivered we must possess a wider and longer experience of concrete houses and, therefore, they favour a fair trial of the material and every encouragement of schemes in which it is proposed to use the same.

Many believe that the use of concrete will accelerate the rate

of construction, and if this contention is borne out by facts concrete as applied to housing will have justified itself, even if the cost be higher.

Cardiff Castle.

A very interesting lecture on Cardiff Castle was recently delivered by John P. Grant, A.R.I.B.A., to the members of the Central Branch of the South Wales Institute of Architects, and the South Wales Branch of the Institute of Builders at the Engineers' Institute, Cardiff.

Mr. Grant stated that the history of Cardiff and its castle went back to the Bronze Age. The inhabitants of that age had left records in their tumuli and cists in such numbers that it would be difficult indeed to find elsewhere so many examples crowded within the space of that part of Glamorgan with which he would deal. The knowledge that Cardiff Castle stood on the site of a Roman camp was of comparatively recent date—namely, in 1889, when some building operation undertaken on behalf of the late Lord Bute disclosed Roman masonry. The Roman buildings occupied approximately 7½ acres measuring 635 feet by 603 feet, surrounded by a wall varying from 9 feet 9 inches to 10 feet 3 inches in thickness. The Normans found the Roman castrum too great for defence and occupied only a portion of it, covering up some of the old defences with a bank which they raised to a height of 27 feet. It was owing to this fact that the Roman remains were to-day in such a fine state of preservation.

In the year 1404 the town and castle of Cardiff were almost entirely destroyed by Owen Glyndwr, though both were very soon rebuilt and the tower of these new defences formed the nucleus of the present-day castle. From 1404 onwards extension to the castle and hall were frequently made.



ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, COPNOR, PORTSMOUTH. STANLEY HALL, Architect.

Architectural Thought, 1924—continued.

At certain intervals throughout history changes of taste have brought about alterations in the forms and style of architectural treatments. Economic and other circumstances have given rise to new developments, so that building enterprise has always been in a state of flux.

As the change in conditions became greater, so the evolution of styles proceeded more rapidly.

There are evidences that at the present time we are living in a period when circumstances constrain us to scrap much of the past which has been outgrown; but the question of how these altered conditions can be successfully translated into modern architecture is one which merits much thought and study.

In a previous article we gave the opinions of various well-known architects on the subject of modern tendencies in building design. From these it is possible to find differences as to points of view, though on essentials there is general agreement. Two schools of thought are just discernible, which, perhaps, we may call the "traditionalists" and the "modernists"; and on that account we are appending below some further views, which are of interest and value in the present state of modern architecture.

MR. STANLEY HALL.

Mr. Stanley Hall, the President of the Architectural Association, like many others fully appreciates the value of tradition, but at the same time is aware of its limitations.

The best results of modern architecture will be obtained by travelling along a "via media," that is, by an avoidance of all forms of extremes.

The elimination of the unnecessary detail is a first principle in the expression of modern buildings, and Mr. Hall is of opinion that were Sir John Soane now alive, he would be considered the most up-to-date of our present day architects. His flush skirtings and sparing use of mouldings afford a true indication of how he anticipated the existing desire for simplicity. Mr. Hall would draw attention to the forthcoming exhibition of Swedish architecture at the Architectural Association in May. This exhibition contains most interesting examples of modern treatments, and is in every way worthy of special study. With this we may contrast Dutch architecture, which, though picturesque with its lines of waving brickwork, does not really afford a truthful exposition of building.

With regard to this country, for better or for worse, we have been led into a Renaissance tradition. From these southern shores of Europe, this architecture of small windows and heavy

projections has gradually pervaded lands where the climatic conditions have caused many modifications of its original forms. Nevertheless, this architecture has the great advantage of a certain formality without which our existence would be unendurable. One can view novel and romantic expressions with interest, and be stimulated, possibly, by "jazz" decoration, but when one has to live among permanent forms, which cannot be altered or moved, then that desire for repose can only be satisfied by an adherence to a building tradition which is both logical and dignified.

Take, for instance, our well-known streets. Whitehall is perhaps our finest thoroughfare in London, and few buildings can compete with the Horse Guards and Whitehall Palace for stateliness. Compare this with the disorderliness of Fleet Street with its ugly sky lines and jumbled methods of building. It is all very well to decry the loss of Nash's Regent Street and to condemn isolated efforts, which do not precisely follow the lines laid down by one's next door neighbour. One must remember, however, that an Englishman is nothing if not individualistic, and it is but natural, therefore, that this trait should be expressed in his conceptions.

Mr. Hall advocates the block system of building in our streets, but he is inclined to the opinion that where one intellect alone dominates such large enterprises, the resulting appearance tends to be devoid of vitality.

In domestic work, the housing schemes, which provided the necessary impulse, have shown that we are still second to none in cottage architecture.

The future is full of promise; students at the Architectural Association after a thorough grounding in tradition are given scope for developing their individuality.

Originality is encouraged provided that the expression of purpose in their work is not forgotten.

MR. GUY DAWBER.

Mr. Dawber is emphatic on several points on the subject of modern architecture, but none more so than on the value of tradition.

The eighteenth century produced a phase of work so perfect and so absolutely indigenous to the country, that subsequent eclecticism and the influence of the Romantic school have done nothing but deprive our national art of steady continuity.

Because we happen to live in 1924, there is no reason to imagine that the heritage of the eighteenth century is now inapplicable; in fact, it is very much more so than in the artistically dark days of the mid-Victorian era.

There is no need for any endeavour on our part to copy the past, but it is essential for us to preserve that spirit which had its inception in the time of Inigo Jones.

Mr. Dawber is of opinion that in the immortal words of Gilbert, "Art stopped short at the cultivated court of the



STOWELL HILL, SOMERSET. E. GUY DAWBER, Architect.

Empress Josephine." Until then an infinite amount of care and skill was lavished on every detail of building. The joinery, the ironwork and, indeed, every component part of our English Renaissance style were all so admirably adapted to their respective spheres, that one feels the slightest alteration would be to their detriment. It is the modern spirit of experiment and the mingling together of incongruous fragments of various styles, that to-day make for bad design and inappropriate detail.

However, there is in some respects considerable hope for the future. The architects of the next generation are now being trained in our duly approved schools, and it is to the instruction of these schools that we must look for a preservation of our national architecture. The outstanding architects of the last fifty years nearly all imbibed their teaching at the time when they were undergoing their articles, which may possibly account for the variety in the design of our modern buildings. The architects of the future, however, have now the chance of creating or rather continuing a tradition throughout the country—up-to-date in every respect—but still reflecting the eighteenth century spirit, which is just as essentially English as our former much valued Tudor.

In order to achieve success in adapting and interpreting the meaning of the past, students should devote their energies to the study of the mediæval and Gothic periods as well as to Classic forms, a practice which seems to be sadly neglected, as is evinced by the falling off in the entries for the Pugin prize. A word of warning is given to parents and schools on the subject of preparing boys for the architectural profession, and Mr. Dawber would like all concerned to read the letter of "City Architect," which appeared in a recent issue of this paper.

Turning now to another subject, and one which is more and more engaging the attention of the public, Mr. Dawber is of opinion that a greater homogeneity in our busy thoroughfares would be preferable to the present system. He regrets the passing of Regent Street, as designed by Nash, and the consequent deletion of continuous horizontal lines.

The result is that buildings have become isolated efforts on narrow frontages, whose cornices cannot attain sufficient length to be of any artistic value. With regard to housing schemes, the country deserves what it has got. It is no good clamouring for cottages built in the local manner, when the economic situation does not admit of anything further than the cheapest slate covered and boxlike villas. It is purely a question of finance, and one cannot perform impossibilities with the slender means at one's disposal. No legislation can lay down hard and fast rules concerning taste, but taking structure as the basis of all design, Mr. Dawber appeals for an adherence to

Renaissance tradition, instead of that fortuitous originality, which nowadays pervades so much of our architecture and discounts alike the value of mouldings and the continuity of style.

MR. CURTIS GREEN.

The general quality of architecture to-day seems to be improving. What is bad is usually due to lack of education of the architect, sometimes to that of the client or of the authorities in control.

Originality in design is pleasing only when it has behind it knowledge of tradition. We students of architecture should learn the grammar of design before imposing our ideas upon other people. There may be better means of doing this than by learning the "Orders" thoroughly, and by soaking ourselves in fine Classic and mediæval architecture, but they are not very obvious. The accomplished architects like Mr. Lethaby, who call upon us to find our inspiration in the materials we use rather than in books, already know everything the books can teach them. Their work appeals to cultured people, because behind it is an intimate knowledge of all that is best in what has already been done.

Fine Greek and mediæval work will open our eyes to the meaning of grace and refinement. Fine architecture is always moving, whatever language it speaks. But for us who owe more to Roman civilisation than to any other, the Renaissance of Roman architecture in England is probably the best field of study for the English student to-day.

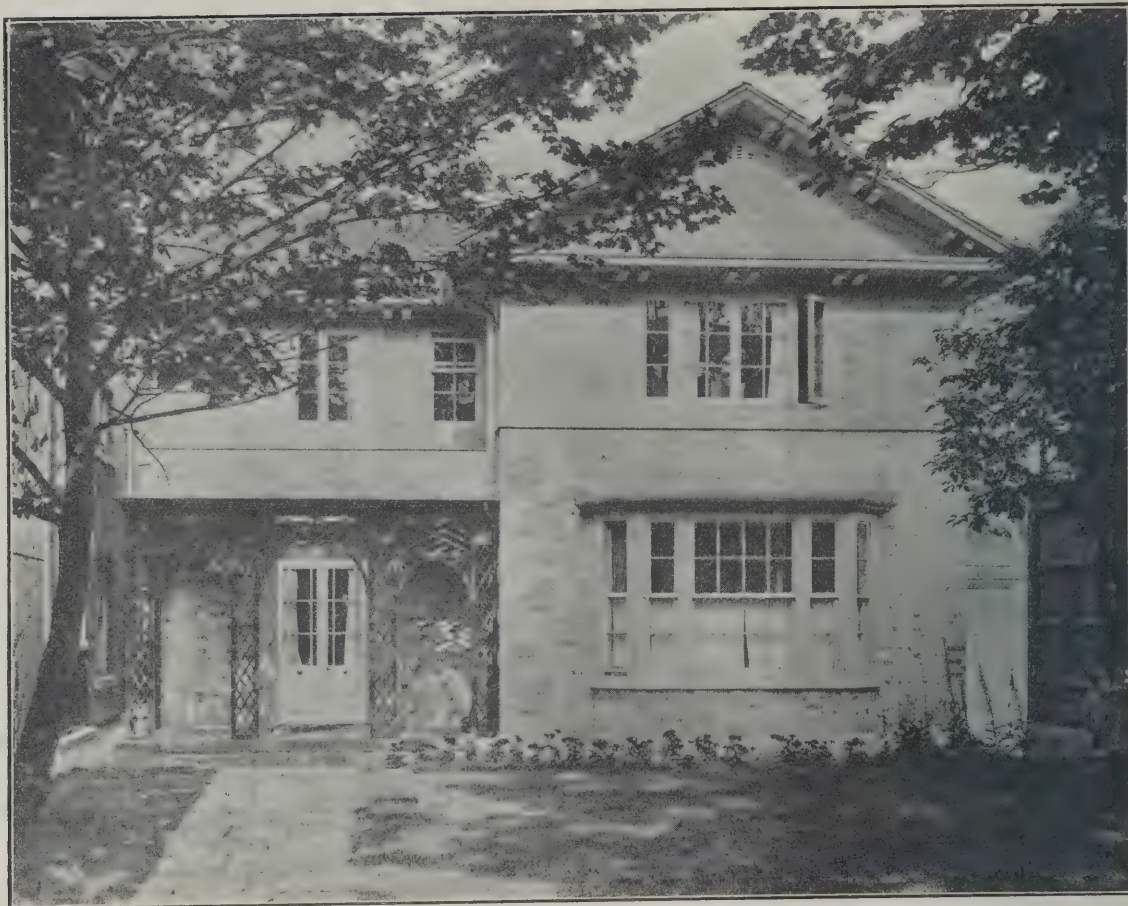
With regard to streets, so much has already been said that anything further is perhaps superfluous; nevertheless, Mr. Curtis Green points to Kingsway as being the best model of street architecture that London has produced recently.

As has been pointed out before, our thoroughfares are full of bad manners. Buildings impose themselves too much on one's notice. This fault can no doubt be traced in many cases to the owners, to whom assertion is more important than modesty. If it is impossible to eradicate this trait, designers should endeavour to make their conceptions as inoffensive as possible.

Whatever the form or mode of building adopted, it should again be emphasised that originality can only be successful if founded on a sure knowledge of the past.

MR. MAURICE WEBB.

For five years the world went mad. Destruction of life, property and beauty was rife in almost every portion of the civilised globe.



THE MANOR HOUSE, HACKNEY WICK. H. S. GOODHART RENDEL, Architect.

We are now struggling to get back to sane things, to find our feet again and focus our eyes on the new ideals and changed circumstances. Architecture cannot but be affected as much as or more than the other arts. We must mark time for a while and think.

The result of that process is that some men fall back on the past for their inspiration more and more, while others go to the opposite extreme and seek to find new modes of expression of their ideas by the suppression of everything which is not the direct outcome of the purpose of their building, or the materials and methods of construction (many of them new) employed in it.

This same process of thought can be seen in the schools. Tradition in some to the exclusion of present needs, endeavours in others to express our needs at the expense of traditional forms.

We await another Christopher Wren who shall, at a bound, solve the problems of our time and forge by his art the opposing schools of thought into one homogeneous and tangible whole, which lesser men can take hold of and use.

Until such a man arises, I see no hope of escape from much of the commercial rubbish which we see in our streets posing as architecture, except the steady process, now going on, of educating our young men and the public to appreciate what is honest endeavour, whether present or past, and to depreciate the vulgar and meretricious whenever and wherever they find it.

If we cannot produce genius we can at least in our schools and offices raise the general level of design, be it on traditional or individual lines. That, I believe, is being done by such men as Atkinson, Reilly, Pite, Richardson, and others, in the moulding of the minds of the men in their schools.

This is more valuable work at the present time than any single architect can hope to do by the erection of buildings, unless he happens to be the genius we want, who can guide us into the light.

MR. GOODHART RENDEL.

It is not an easy matter to sum up one's knowledge and experience of architecture in a column of concise sentences, especially when one has devoted to it so much study and thought as Mr. Goodhart Rendel—nor does it do justice to views that have been carefully formulated. Nevertheless, his opinion—however shortly expressed—is most interesting in the light of modern tendencies.

Early surroundings having predisposed him in favour of the clear logic of French teaching, he maintains that the muddled classic of England to-day is far further from the spirit of that

teaching than was the accomplishment of our great Gothic architects of the nineteenth century. He would expect an ancient Greek to feel some kinship with Burges and with Butterfield, but none with Smirke or with Wilkins.

He is definite on the point that it is impossible for us to break with tradition, but this does not mean that one is bound to follow "Style"; in fact, styles, or the undue importance which attaches to them, become boring.

The roots of classic art are embedded in unity and common sense, but this also may be said of Gothic. Hence true architectural design does not depend on mere style, however logically that style was brought about. The bones of the structure must be right, the plan must be in exact relation to requirements, and the whole building must be functionally perfect if it is to live, or the creator's art is to acquire original and not borrowed vitality.

None of these things can be obtained by copyism, but if the design be good, it will readily adapt itself to some accepted mode of dressing.

One cannot legislate for good architects; they may achieve successes beyond criticism, but on behalf of the public, it is essential that the ordinary run of building production should be as inoffensive as possible.

At the present time our architecture is typical of its period. It is chaotic because contemporary thought is chaotic. It is capricious, uneducated and gaudy, because that is our mentality and such is our admiration of anything that looks expensive.

Mr. Goodhart Rendel considers that the demand for a new style is itself an extreme manifestation of servile stylism. Had architects a proper scale of values they would be too much occupied with essentials to waste a thought upon whether the style of their works was old or new. He holds that the avoidance of accustomed forms in art is a negative impulse which is bound to lead to sterility, an enterprise as hopeless as trying to get into heaven, by keeping out of trouble.

The accepted detail of a feature—a pediment for example—is of little importance compared to the knowledge of where that feature should be placed, or as to whether it should be used at all.

To attempt to arrive at absolute beauty is of no avail; the preference for curved forms is said to be ingrained in each one of us from our earliest recollections and is, perhaps, prenatal.

The association of certain forms with pleasing ideas is probably deeply buried somewhere in our subconscious, and he who by some innate genius can interpret and express those forms—even unconsciously—produces masterpieces.

The popularity of the Georgian style at the present day is no doubt due to the fact that it reflects the mode of life to which we would return.

With regard to street architecture, Mr. Goodhart Rendel is not altogether in agreement with the oft-expressed wish to preserve an unbroken continuity instead of allowing buildings to become isolated units. It depends on whether or not one regards the sides of a street as the walls of a room.

Certainly the Parisian scheme is good where the setting back of storeys above the unbroken cornice effectually prevents the appearance of disorderly skylines. At the present time there is such an adherence to the pedantry of style—that is to say the Renaissance tradition—that one is debarred from using many Gothic features, whose employment would be of considerable advantage. There is great scope for this introduction, not as a veneer like so many American examples, but as minor material, which would so readily overcome difficulties in certain phases of building, that do not admit of a classic treatment without laborious elaboration. String courses, window splays, irregularly placed chimneys, the springing of arches from corbels, etc., may be quoted as examples in this connection.

To sum up, it may be stated as a golden axiom, that whatever the forms of a building and however eclectic its style, the same thing must not be done in different ways in our designs. Each function must have its proper form, each form its proper function—there must be no hesitation as to how a thing shall be expressed. Thus the building may achieve æsthetic unity, and Unity is the only definite essential in a work of art.

H. W. WILLS.

The feature of much modern architecture is due to architects becoming stampeded by the general uneasiness of the conditions of the time. They wish to strike "a new note," but do not know how to do it, and in their attempts produce what is either bizarre or uninteresting. Years ago Mr. MacVicar Anderson said that he could not understand the desire to produce what was new since the fundamental wants of people were unchanged. We believe he was sound in his conclusions, and if architects of to-day lost their self consciousness and restlessness and simply concentrated themselves on producing well planned buildings suitably expressive in design anything which was required by "the spirit of the age" would come naturally. The architect should not emulate the hysteria of the fever-stricken patient, an attitude which has become all too common.

Book Reviews.

"Pencil Drawing." By Charles Marriott. 5s.

It is difficult to know in what category to place this publication: it can hardly claim to be classified as a book. Four small half-tone reproductions printed on medium art paper spoil by the pressure which has been applied for some unknown reason. This pressure has marked the art paper with a type impression totally unjustifiable, as each picture is printed on one side of the paper only. Apart from this the illustrations do not convey to us any special style of treatment or expression from which the public might learn to appreciate pencil drawings more. Neither does the article of about 1,000 words make any effort to teach us anything about the medium.

The author tells us that "Architects themselves take up the pencil to create their first designs upon paper, but the pencil will not only design architecture but will express it when the building is finished and subject to the transfiguring effects of light and atmosphere." Many architects would no doubt be very grateful if their pencils would design architecture.

We venture to think that "Norwich," by Mr. Hanslip Fletcher, is a quick sketch by this artist who was inspired by the wish to convey what he saw on a clear September morning. To suggest that it shows the keenest interest in architecture for its own sake seems, to us, to be asking too much of this effort. Mr. Bert Thomas in his note on his sketch of Pinner Church quite frankly admits that he has used touches of coloured crayon on the roof and sky.

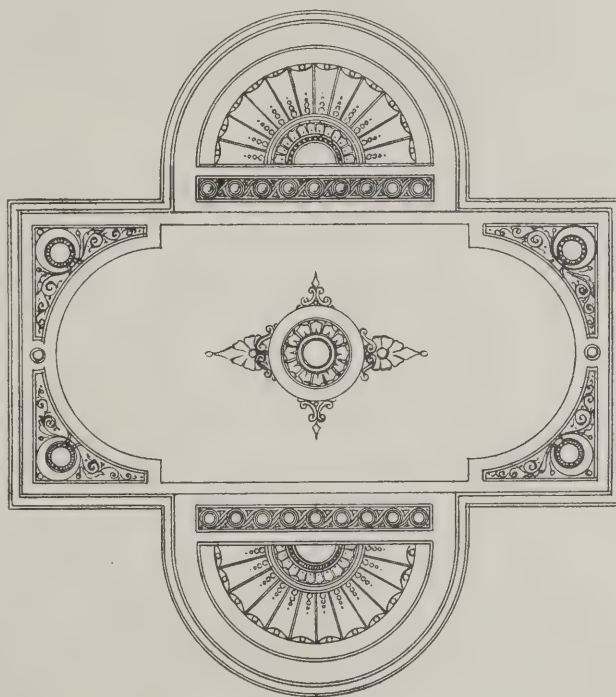
In our view this should have precluded this drawing from the publication. The public do not view these matters in the same light as artists. An illustration in a book entitled "Pencil Drawing" should not be dependent on another medium for any of its effects.

With reference to Frank L. Emanuel's drawing of Zwolle, perhaps the kindest thing to say about this reproduction is that it bears only a poor likeness to the original. Half-tone blocks seldom do justice to a pencil drawing. The publishers would have been better advised to use some other method. We

could recommend them "Ink Photo." We have recently seen some reproductions of pencil drawings where it was difficult to tell which was the original, even though we saw them side by side. A moment's reflection on this matter of reproduction. The half-tone block is a reproduction of an original by another mind, which, be it ever so artistic or appreciative, is bound to place a different value on the various tones and their relative importance to each other and the general scheme.

"Laxton's Builders' Price Book, 1924." Published by Kelly's Directory, Ltd., price 7s. 6d., plus 1s. postage.

As its name indicates, it gives the prices of the materials, fittings and labour employed in the building and allied trades. It is indispensable both to those who are engaged in the trades and to all those who have work effected for them by any of the building and allied trades. It will be seen from the arrangement of the prices that the actual costs in December, 1923, of materials, fittings, and labour are given. Any variation which may subsequently occur can be quickly incorporated, thereby rendering the book valuable throughout the year. We would particularly call your attention to the tables and diagrams given in the preface. The information contained in the book has been considerably increased, additional features being chapters on reinforced concrete work, and pile driving. A valuable feature of this book is the blue section, which includes the names and addresses of the manufacturers of nearly 12,000 of the specialities or proprietary articles and brands, which are in common use in the building and allied trades, classified under the name of the article. The book is authoritative in that in disputed cases it is referred to in the courts of law. It is comprehensive in that it includes thousands of prices in over 700 pages, and it is also inexpensive. The Building Acts and the By-Laws of the London County Council, etc., are incorporated, as well as the distinguishing brands of sawn, planed, and hewn woods.



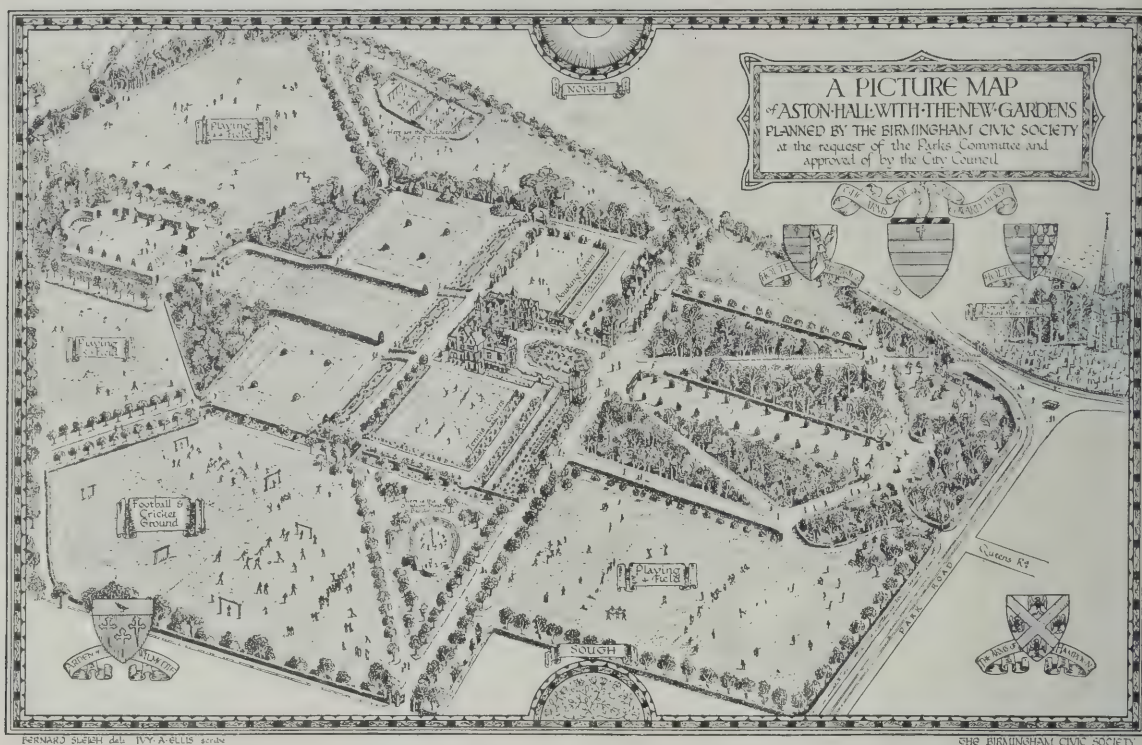
"An Analysis of the Base Principles of Beauty." By E. W. Fritchley, F.R.I.B.A. 10s. 6d. net.

This book contains about seventy illustrations of designs drawn by the author. In an introductory note he gives the principles upon which these designs are based. Partly of geometrical character these patterns can form the basis for many elaborations and adaptations. The author has an architectural clientele in India, and these designs have been influenced somewhat by the prevailing ornamental expression of that country. No doubt many of the author's Indian friends will appreciate this book, though designers here might easily find inspiration from some of the drawings.

The Cardiff Public Works Committee approved of the plans for the construction of six new streets, and the plans for 56 houses.

The plans for new church in Cowbridge Road, Cardiff, were passed by the Cardiff Public Works Committee. The same authority approved of the plans for the extensions of the fire station.

Preliminary Report on the Replanning of Aston Park.



The scheme now presented is the result of several inspections of the site and a most careful consideration of each aspect of a rather complex problem.

It is impossible to deal with Aston Park as with ordinary suburban enclosures. The historical value of the Hall at once claims consideration for a special environment, and provides the best of reasons for a suitable difference in treatment from other public grounds, a difference which is valuable in itself, and should be fully exploited.

It may be said at once that it is not proposed to attempt a restoration of the grounds to their original character as shown on the plan of 1758, the chief features of which were the great avenue extending axially as far as the Lichfield Road, some shorter lateral avenues, and a deer park of 327 acres. These are features which cannot be re-established; and the proposal now put forward is designed to give (within the area now available) gardens which might have been contemporary with the house, because based upon the manner of garden design then in vogue.

This development of historical character in the grounds immediately about the Hall has been so arranged as to break up the lower ground on the west, with a view to its better control and maintenance. The hard usage of the ground, which has made grass impossible at this point, is provided for by covering two relatively large areas with asphalt, the chilly appearance of which is moderated by surrounding avenues and gardens; and it is thought that these avenues—each with a fenced strip of ground to protect the trees—will serve to cut off the adjoining playing fields, and so make possible a satisfactory growth of grass within the boundaries left unpaved.

The children's gymnasium and the bandstand are two of the least satisfactory details of the present Park. Both are incongruous adjuncts to the Hall, and it is proposed to move the former to a site near the north-west entrance, where it will adjoin the asphalted playing areas; and to construct a new music stand, stage, and auditorium, near to the south entrance, as shown on the plan.

The revised arrangements of the gardens about the Hall include vistas radiating from the east and west fronts, which would add greatly to the stately character of the mansion. One of these vistas is designed as a direct approach from the lodge entrance in Church Lane, and this approach is balanced in effect by a new route from Park Road, while the present central road is converted into a great lawn, with formal trees at intervals, and a suitably designed view point as a terminal feature.

It is suggested that the formal bedding in the east forecourt and on the slope below the west terrace, should be laid out with topiary work of a character contemporary with the Hall; that the lawn now occupied by the bandstand should be converted into tennis courts; that the west and south margins of this green should be planted with double herbaceous borders between clipped hedges; that the bowling green on the north front should be increased in size, and the path area be reduced as shown. These alterations are associated with a proposed blocking up of the way down the slope at this point, which is recommended for the following reasons:—

The traffic by this road for attendance at the adjoining Aston Villa Football Grounds is often very great; and quite unsuitable in bulk and character to pass through the out-buildings and forecourt of the Hall as at present; it would facilitate the clearance of congestion from this cause, and at the same time preserve amenity, if the main cross road of the park from north to west were continued of the same width across the front of the stables, direct to Trinity Road as shown on the plan. Another reason for closing the present road is that the outlook from the north front of the Hall is at the present time quite ruined by the ugly buildings of the Aston Villa Football Grounds; and it is desirable to close in this view as much as possible, by the judicious arrangement of new shrubs, high hedges and trees.

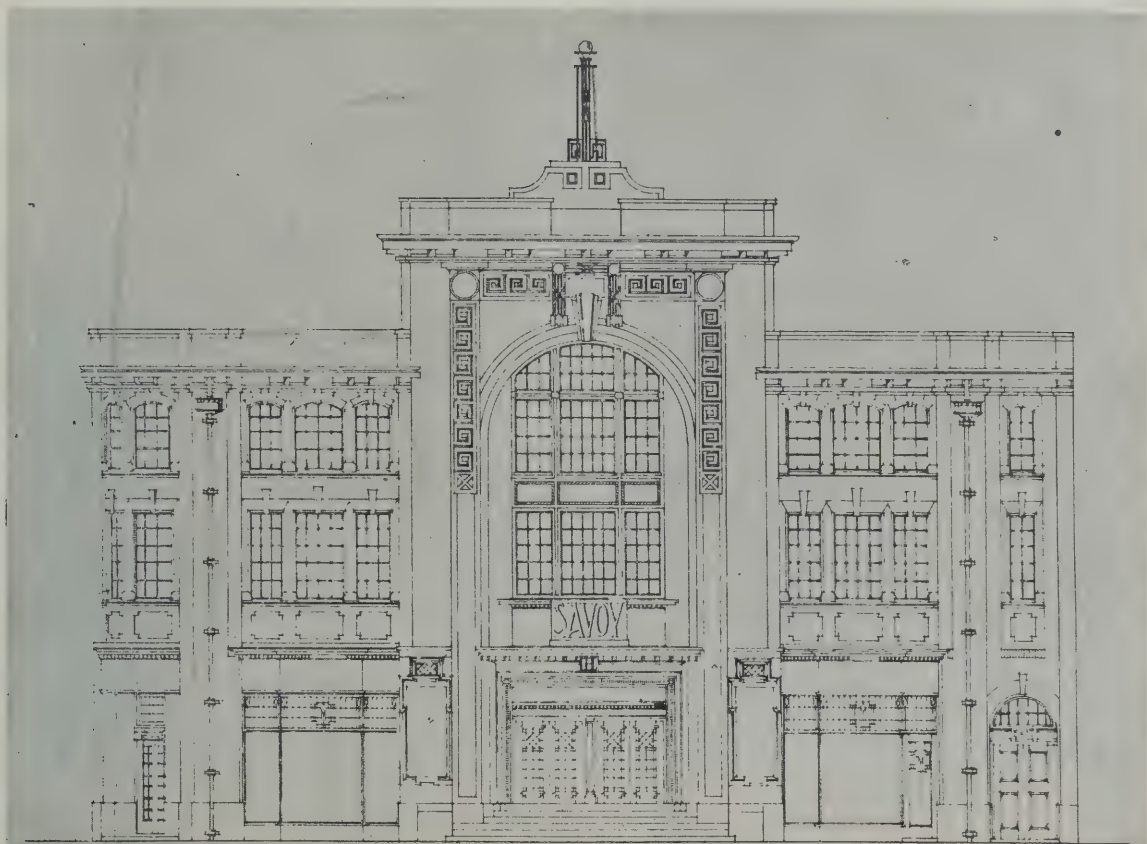
Other prospects which stand in need of similar screening are the views from the north and south extremities of the great west terrace; also the termination of the central vistas on the east and west. In each of these cases it is proposed to transplant large and vigorous trees, to give an immediate protection against offensive prospects.

It is not necessary to say more of the garden plan, than that on the west a certain amount of levelling is involved, and that the spacious effect of the gardens is enormously increased by the central line of lawns extending to the boundary of the site.

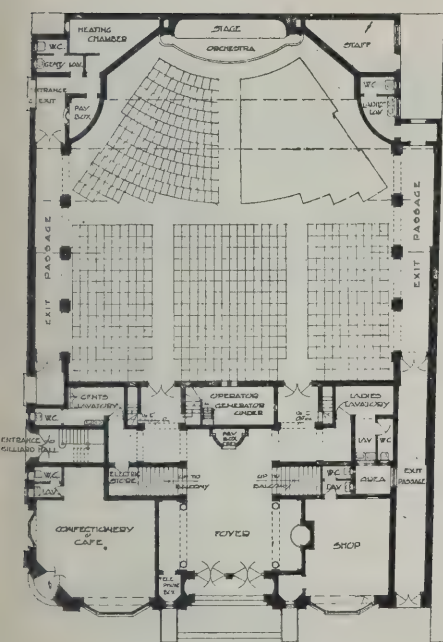
It will be obvious to the Committee that the special character of the work to be done in a scheme of this kind, may require a method of execution differing from that employed in normal park work, and it is suggested that the work should have the constant personal attention of a head gardener experienced in private work of this class on a large scale.

In conclusion may I assure the Committee that the services of the Society are always at their disposal for a further consideration of this project, and for collaboration on such work as they may eventually authorise.

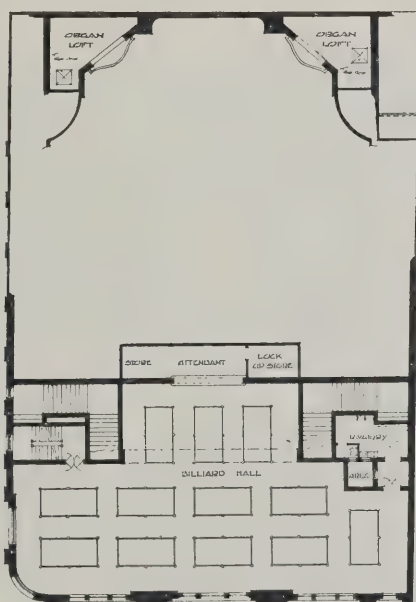
The Savoy Cinema, Hull.



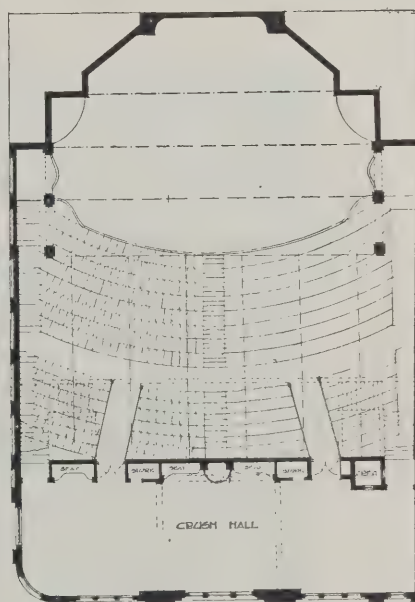
SAVOY PICTURE THEATRE, HULL. MAIN FACADE. BLACKMORE, SYKES & Co., Architects.



GROUND
PLAN



FIRST FLOOR
PLAN



BALCONY
PLAN

BLACKMORE, SYKES & CO.
ARCHTTS.
HULL.

SAVOY PICTURE THEATRE, HULL.

The Savoy Cinema, Hull, has been erected under the promotion of Messrs. The Savoy (Hull), Ltd., of which company Mr. T. Fawley Judge is the Chairman.

The erection of the building was commenced in October, 1922, and was opened to its patrons by the Lord Mayor of Hull on October 29th, 1923.

The whole scheme has been executed from the designs of Messrs. Blackmore, Sykes & Co., architects, of Ruskin Chambers, Scale Lane, Hull, and under whose supervision the work has been carried out.

The site is a rectangular one, with frontages to Morrill Street and Holderness Road, and the whole area is occupied by the theatre and its subordinate rooms. In addition to the cinema the scheme embodies two shops and a billiard hall with twelve tables.

The building is designed in the Neo-Grec style, and the elevations have been executed in narrow sand faced bricks, white pointed, and with stone dressings.

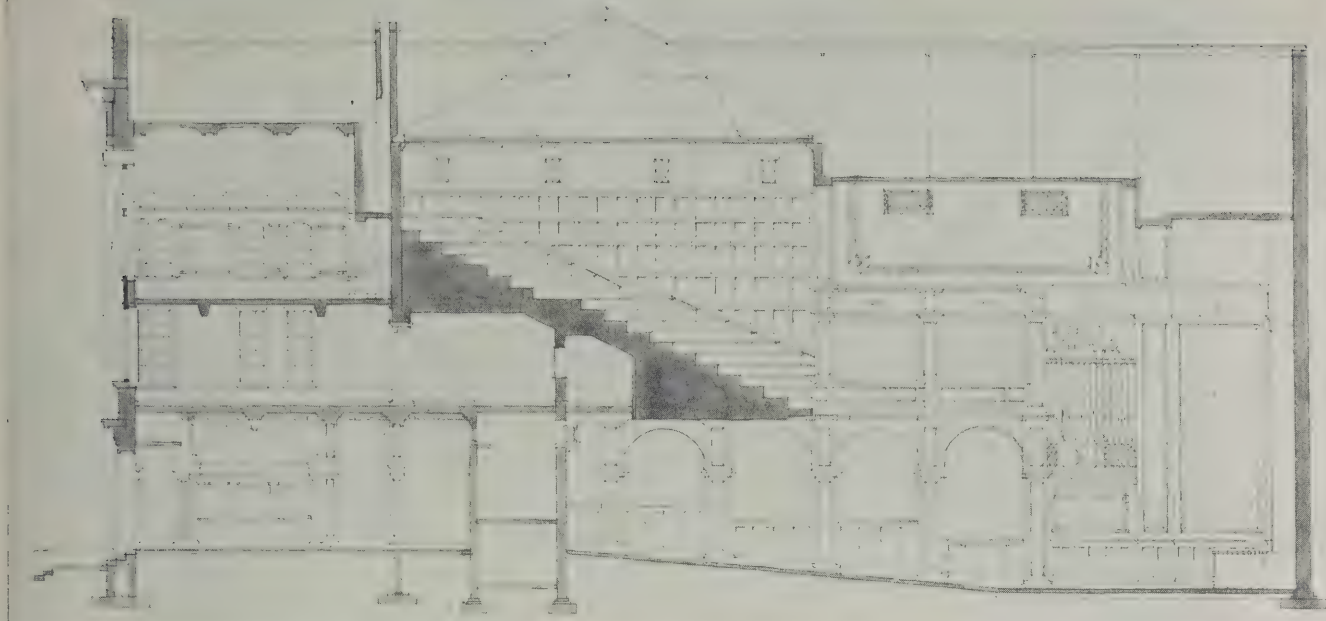
Restraint and dignity of design are the principles of the architectural treatment adopted, for both the interior and exterior of the building.



SAVOY CINEMA, HULL. VIEW FROM GALLERY. MESSRS. BLACKMORE, SYKES & Co., Architects.



SAVOY CINEMA, HULL. GENERAL VIEW OF GALLERY. MESSRS. BLACKMORE, SYKES & Co., Architects.



SAVOY CINEMA, HULL. MESSRS. BLACKMORE, SYKES & CO., Architects.

The entrance has been made the central feature of the front elevation, and immediately over the entrance in a large central steel window, extending through two stories. The central elevation is 55 feet high, and above which is surmounted the central lighting standard extending a further 14 feet in height, and which is completed with an electric light of 2,000 candle power.

The entrance opens into an entrance foyer, 30 feet by 30 feet, architecturally treated in fibrous plaster, and with polished oak block flooring. From the foyer are the two entrances to the auditorium and the two staircases leading to the Crush Hall for the balcony.

Ladies' and gentlemen's lavatories are located on respective sides of the foyer, and are approached by well-concealed entrances.

The operators' box, re-winding room and attendants' room are situated between the foyer and the auditorium. The generator room is below the operators' box. The auditorium is 80 feet in width, and the projection is 75 feet to the screen. The ground-floor accommodation is provided for 950, with exceptionally large gangway provision, so as to enable the exit of the audience in comfort without any crush whatever. There are five exit doors on the ground floor.

A special feature has been made of the orchestra platform, to provide for the accomplished artistes which have been engaged by the proprietors.

The promoters' principles throughout have been for excellence in pictures, music and comfort.

The screen is a "Surbrite" of size 21 feet 9 inches by 18 feet, and is covered by electrically operated curtains with special lighting effects.

A spacious organ chamber has been provided at each side of the proscenium, and the magnificent three manual organ which has been installed is operated from a detached console in the centre of the orchestra.

The balcony of the hall provides accommodation for 650 in luxurious comfort. The fine sweep of the balcony with its span of 80 feet, terminating with impressive boxes, gives a dignified and stately appearance to the theatre.

The balcony is entered from a crush hall of size 80 feet by 26 feet, with a large and central fireplace recess and an impressive curved ceiling. The floor is laid with polished oak block flooring.

The seating throughout the Hall is arranged so as to give an absolutely uninterrupted view of the screen from every seat, and entirely obviates any necessity for ladies to remove their hats during a show.

Spaciousness is to be noted throughout the scheme, and even under the balcony there is a height of 17 feet, thus entirely eliminating the depressing effect so often felt under the balcony of a picture theatre.

The ventilation of the building is carried out by electric extract fans, conveying the air through trunks arranged in the

roof space, from the ceiling grids, and the system is such as to give a complete change of air in the hall six times per hour.

The heating is on the low-pressure hot-water system, and is provided with an electric motor and pump to give rapid acceleration of the circulation.

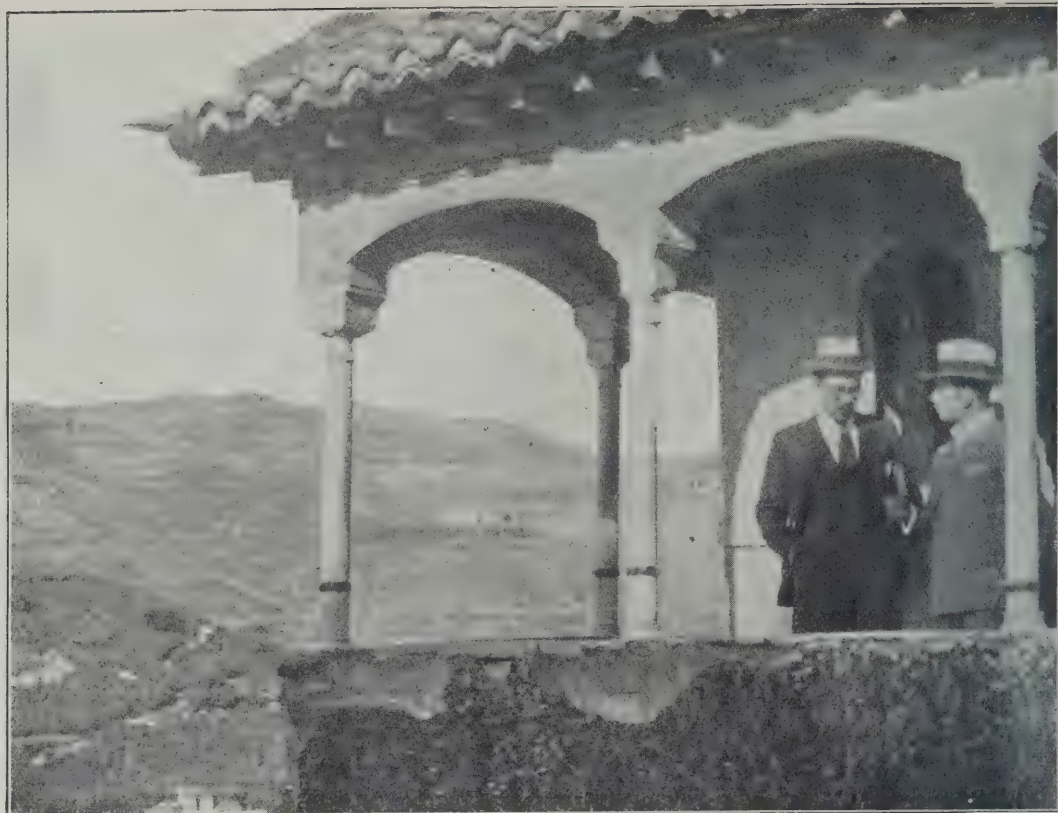
The electric lighting of the theatre has many special points such as subdued reflected light, coloured tone effects and "dimmer" operation. The lighting scheme throughout is effected with specially designed silk covered fittings in blue and gold. The main ceiling fittings are in the form of lighted Grecian urns, suspended from the ceiling with silken cords attached to the gold coloured handles of the urns, the effect obtained being quite unique. The lighting during the pictures is so arranged that the gangways and the access to all seats can be distinctly seen, and the necessity for the attendants to carry hand torches is obviated.

The general contractors were Messrs. Con. Greenwood & Sons, Ltd., Hull. The balcony and roof steel work was carried out by Messrs. Arch. D. Dawney & Sons, Ltd., Battersea, S.W.11. The general steelwork was executed by Messrs. D. T. Brown, Son & Co., Liverpool. Messrs. W. S. Wilson & Son, Mansfield, were responsible for the fibrous plasterwork. Messrs. R. Finch & Co., Hull, executed all the joinery work. The plumbing and glazing was carried out by C. F. Proctor, of Hull. Messrs. The Hull Concrete Stone Co., Ltd., Hull, were responsible for the stonework, whilst the electrical installation is the work of Messrs. The City Electrical Co., Ltd., Hull. Messrs. Holmes & Moor, Ltd., of Hull, supplied the seats. Messrs. Wm. Harland & Co., Ltd., of Hull, executed the general furnishing. The organ was built and erected by Messrs. H. S. Vincent & Co., Sunderland. Messrs. Hollis Bros. & Co., Ltd., of Hull, carried out the oak block flooring. The Terrazzo composition floors were laid by Messrs. O. Toffolo & Co., also of Hull. Messrs. Chas. Raine & Sons, Ltd., Hull, fitted the ventilation system, and Messrs. Rosser & Russell, Ltd., Leeds, were responsible for the heating plant. Messrs. W. Garbutt & Co., Hull, executed the internal decorating, and the slating was carried out by Messrs. Dawber, Townesley & Co., Ltd., Hull.

The Foleshill Rural District Council has passed the plans for five houses in Heath Road, Bedworth, two houses in Wilson's Lane, Exhall, two houses in Walsgrave Road, Wyken.

New business premises are to be built in Wellington Street, Barnsley, for the Barnsley British Co-operative Society, Ltd.

The High Commissioner for Australia has just placed orders in England for the supply of approximately £214,000 worth of copper and bronze wire for the Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Department. The wire could have been obtained some thousands of pounds cheaper on the Continent, but following the policy adopted now for many years of giving preference to Empire products, the Commonwealth Government have placed the contract with British manufacturers.



A CORNER OF THE ALHAMBRA.

Architecture on the Films.

P. W. Hubbard, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

It is gratifying for some of us to find that film exhibitors' programmes are not entirely filled with "blood and thunder" episodes of American life.



FORTRESS OF RABAT.

A large proportion of cinemas give us short-reel interludes of the "educational," "scenic," and "travel" type. For general interest the latter are usually most worth seeing, provided that the "sunset in the hills" and "down to the water's edge" business is not overdone.

The Atlas Biocraft Co. have taken a series of travel pictures in Morocco and Spain, which give some good examples of the picturesque architecture of these Southern lands.

The director, Mr. Adrian Brunel, has taken full advantage of the contrasts of light and shade, which the brilliant sunshine is able to produce.

Apart from photos in architectural books it is rarely that we see views of such famous buildings as the Alhambra, a small corner of which is illustrated above. This building is what Mr. Statham has called "the climax of the exuberant fancy of Moorish taste." As is well known, it was once a Royal Palace and is, perhaps, the finest monument of Saracenic architecture that we possess. It took over fifty years to build, and was not completed till 1354 by Abd-el-Walid.

Passing now to Morocco, we would call attention to the town of Rabat, which lies opposite to Salee at the mouth of the river. Rabat dates from the twelfth century, after which time it was the scene of many Musulman victories against the Christians.

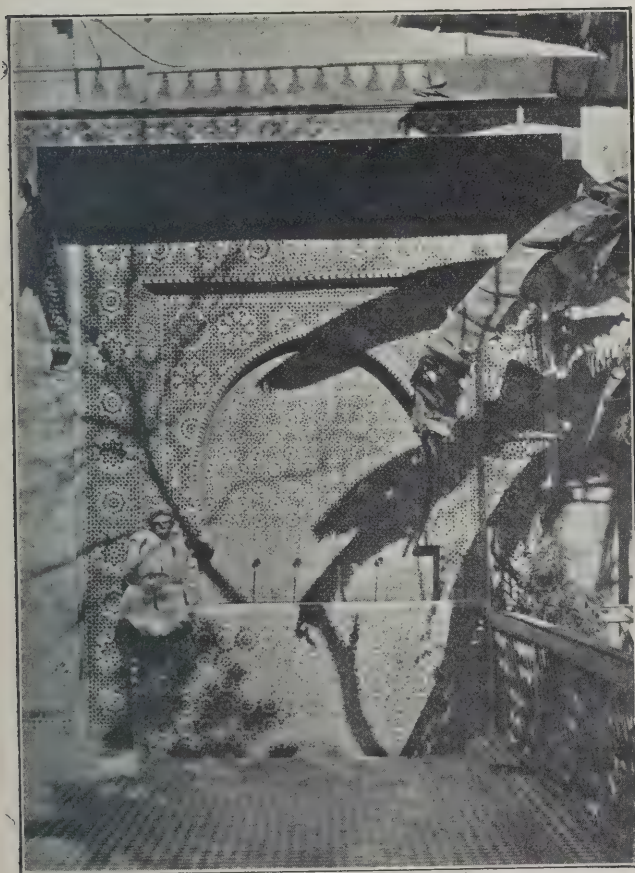
The Mosque of Hassan, with its imposing tower, was erected in the ensuing century by an architect of Seville named Djeber. This building, together with the Kasba Oudaïa, are the outstanding features of Rabat. This fortress of Oudaïa, constructed in reddish stone, with its lofty walls and high bastions, is situated to the north of the town, and dominates the dwellings, which have grown up round the Mosque.

The town of Mekues, founded in the eleventh century, is well fortified within and without, as indeed are most others in this district. The photograph shows twin archways through the old city walls.

Travellers in this part of the world should spend a few days at Fez. The Palais Dar Ould Djamaï is well worth a



OLD CITY WALL OF MEKNES.



PALAIS DJAMAÏS.

visit. Though of recent date it furnishes some extraordinary fine specimens of craftsmanship. The courtyard shown in the illustration is remarkable for its wonderful coloured tiles, marble and mosaics. The canopy is of cedar wood and its soffit is richly decorated with a form of chip carving picked out in gold and other colours. The clear atmosphere enables the pigments to retain their preservation.

Fez is one of the few places in the district that has a passable water supply, and the courtyard of the Palais Djamaï contains a well which discharges its contents

We are indebted to the Atlas Biocraft Co., Ltd., for the loan of the photographs which illustrate this article.

through the pipes above the trough; the overflow runs down the face of the marble and keeps the place reasonably cool.

"The Age of Uncertainty."

The above is the title of one of the articles appearing in the Society of Architects' Journal, entitled "Architecture," dated February. The whole of this issue is devoted to Regent Street.

The passing of Nash's Regent Street might be considered a loss if the buildings had retained their original form; but the Regent Street of three years ago was nothing like the representation of the thoroughfare illustrated on page 178 of "Architecture," "View looking towards the Quadrant." From a colour print published by R. Ackerman, 1828.

Nash's Regent Street was ruined long years ago, when the original ground floor elevations were removed and replaced by shopfronts of little or no artistic merit, when the Quadrant lost its colonnade. To-day the architectural Press has been singing the "Swan Song" of a hotch potch representation of Nash's real street. The old buildings of Staple Inn retain to a great extent their original façade and are therefore of historical interest, but the defaced Regent Street of three years ago only bespoke of our national stupidity.

Every age is an age of uncertainty to minds that have no character and live in an everlasting state of wobble. Regent Street has been rebuilt by many professionals. But the conditions and restrictions have been most harmful to the architectural expression.

Owners of leases which fell in 20 or 30 years ago, rebuilt their premises in a style which to-day is not considered good architecture.

The authorities in control demanded from our architects that the style of these unfortunate buildings should dominate their elevations, thus instead of one ugly building we have a whole row, or whole blocks. We cannot possibly attribute the framing of such stipulations to any member of the profession. We have no idea who originated and demanded the enforcement of these disastrous conditions. But the result is before our eyes, and will be with us and our children until the third and fourth generation unless some kindly outside element has pity and destroys them. Viewed from a totally different aspect, Regent Street has been recognised as the best luxury shopping centre of the Empire. In this sphere, it stands entirely alone. Oxford Street caters for an entirely different clientele, as also does Bond Street.

To-day the population of London is far and away out of all proportion to that existing in Nash's time. He planned and built for his period. As year succeeds year the population grows and the area for commercial activity remains the same so long as the buildings of a century ago remain standing.

To lament the passing of Nash's Regent Street is to admit a lack of every essential capacity to grasp the needs of to-day and make them express our architecture.

Rapid Progress at Wembley.

For a long time Wembley, by reason of the fact that the building of the British Empire Exhibition has involved the use of an enormous mileage of railways and a great number of motor lorries during an exceptionally wet season, has been altogether undeservedly associated with a welter of mud. It is really astonishing what a succession of only two fine days will do.

To-day it is possible to traverse the grounds with a certain degree of cleanliness and comfort, and the visitor can take an intelligent and unprejudiced view of the astonishing progress which is being made.

What really has been happening is that the framework of the building has been approaching completion, and the ornamental facades and artistic front elevations have been waiting to be placed in position. Now whole frontages appear to have been completed as within the space of a week, and whereas a month ago pessimistic views were heard, it is now quite clear that, granted there be no pronounced setback, the exhibition will be ready for the public at the beginning of April.

One of the most striking enclosures will be that which has been built upon the West African section, which includes Gold Coast, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. The deep, red tinted and loop holed walls of an old West African fortified township are practically complete.

It may sound invidious to select what we have always regarded as a small Crown Colony for special mention, but the fact that the Gold Coast, which has made such immense strides in connection with the export of cocoa and the development of Empire shipping during the last fifty years, has put so much money, thought and ingenuity into its exhibit at Wembley is eloquent of the potentialities which attach to the various component States of our commonwealth, regardless of their actual status within the realm.

The West African authorities have proved themselves wise in reserving for themselves such a large portion of the grounds at Wembley. Their compound within their red walls conveys to the visitor the necessary atmosphere of space and freedom with which the tropical colony is associated. The interior decoration is well fitted to the big and imposing exterior. All that could be done in the way of reproducing the native symbolic interiors in which the Hausas, the Fantees, the Fulain and the Ashantees indulge their artistic whims is there for the world to see.

R.I.B.A.

ADVISORY ART COMMITTEES.

A SUGGESTION TO CITIES, TOWNS AND RURAL AREAS.

There has been, in recent years, encouraging signs of increased interest on the part of the general public in questions relating to the preservation and increase of the general artistic and natural amenities of towns and rural areas. Expression of this view is also shown in a desire to preserve the fine works of past ages, while the universal approval with which the recent appointment of the Fine Arts Commission has been received, and the formation of similar Committees of taste which had preceded it in more than one provincial centre, clearly shows the increasing interest which is being taken in civic development generally and the desire for its treatment from the æsthetic as well as from the purely utilitarian standpoint.

The Royal Institute of British Architects is anxious to encourage these tendencies, and invites the co-operation of those actively interested to secure that in the march of progress the claims of beauty are not forgotten. As a means to this end, it suggests the formation of an Advisory Art Committee in towns and rural districts with the object of affording advice in a consultative capacity in all matters concerning the amenities of the district, including questions relating to the preservation of old buildings, the lay-out of new streets, open spaces, cemeteries, designs for proposed new public buildings, bridges, monuments or memorials, fountains, public means of lighting, fences, public conveniences, or other structures to be erected upon land belonging to or under the control of the Local Authority, that may be referred to the Committee or as to which it may desire to give advice.

The constitution of the Committee which is suggested will vary according to local circumstances, and will differ in urban and rural areas. In many towns Civic Associations already exist, and the influence which these or similar organisations possess may suitably be employed to foster the establishment of an Advisory Art Committee. In smaller localities the machinery of the Local Ratepayers' Association might be used. For example, there already exists in one London district such a Committee of the

Ratepayers' Association which is doing most useful work in safeguarding the amenities of its own district.

The findings of the Committee should be in the nature of recommendations only, and it may be necessary that all such matters as may be considered by it should be treated in strict confidence, and not be divulged except by agreement with the Local Authority concerned.

It is essential that such a Committee as is suggested should be representative of real artistic competence and judgment (though not necessarily of the purely professional kind), and that its members should be persons whose opinions are likely to command public respect. The cultivation and preservation of harmonious relations with the Local Authority is of the greatest importance, and the best means by which this end may be attained requires the most careful consideration.

The Royal Institute of British Architects, while not presuming to dictate upon the question of the constitution of Advisory Art Committees, will be glad to offer advice and such information on the subject as they possess, if required to do so.

WAGE SLIPS ON TENDERS.—On the recommendation of the Practice Standing Committee it was decided to inform the London Master Builders' Association that strong exception is taken to their action in issuing a notice stating that slips would in future be affixed to tenders providing for adjustments in the event of variations in wage rates, in view of the fact that the point is at present under discussion with the National Federation of Building Trades Employers (which includes the London Master Builders' Association).

THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE CONGRESS, 1924.—Mr. W. Glen Dobie (A.), President of the Liverpool Architectural Society, was appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. at the Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute to be held at Liverpool in July.

Competition News.

PROPOSED CONSTANTINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, MIDDLESBROUGH.—The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Mr. Percy Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., as Assessor in this Competition.

PROPOSED MASONIC MILLION MEMORIAL COMPETITION.—The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A., F.R.I.B.A., as one of the three Assessors in this Competition.

PROPOSED LAY-OUT COMPETITION, VALETTA, MALTA.—The President of the Royal Institute of British Architects has nominated Mr. Edward P. Warren, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., and Professor Patrick Abercrombie, A.R.I.B.A., as joint-Assessors in this Competition.

HEREFORD MARKET HALL AND GRAVESEND HOUSING COMPETITIONS.—The Royal Institute of British Architects and the Society of Architects beg to notify to their members that the conditions of these competitions are not in accordance with the regulations and they are requested not to take part in the same without first ascertaining from the Secretaries that the conditions have been approved.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

FEBRUARY 28, 1874.

THE HOLBORN VIADUCT STATUE.

Mr. W. Haywood, the City Engineer, supplies the following information to the *City Press* as to the authorship of design of the pedestal of the Prince Consort statue:—Two designs, originally made by Mr. Bacon and myself, were approved by the Improvement Committee, but were not satisfactory to the Court of Common Council—the first on the score of expense; the second, I believe, on account of the height of the pedestal. The Improvement Committee then placed the matter in the hands of a select committee of five, of which Mr. Shaw was chairman. That committee requested Mr. Bacon alone to furnish another design; but in the interim, not anticipating I should be omitted, we had prepared a joint design, which was the one submitted to the committee by Mr. Bacon. Subsequently the committee called in Mr. Hardwicke, who suggested some alterations in detail. As no two persons agree altogether upon matters of taste, it is probable that anybody in Mr. Hardwicke's position would have suggested some alteration. Nevertheless, the design in all its essential features is that of Mr. Bacon and myself.

Three thousand pounds is to be devoted to the extensions of the Barry Town Accident and Surgical Hospital.

The Kiveton Park Rural District Council propose to erect a further ten houses at Auston.



HOUSE NEAR THAMES DITTON. REES & ARCHER-BETHAM, Architects.

General News.

Midlands.

Additional attractions are proposed in a scheme in connection with the Cleethorpes bathing pool at the end of Kingsway Promenade. They include shower baths, foot baths, dressing rooms, a café, shops, and seating accommodation for 2,500 persons.

A new secondary school is to be erected at Ashton-under-Lyne at a cost of £56,853.

The Warwickshire County Council propose to erect a new elementary school at Atherstone.

There is a scheme on foot for the erection of a village hall at Burton Joyce, Nottingham.

A sugar-beet factory is to be erected on the Colwick Estates, Nottingham, the promoters, we read, are the Anglo-Scotch Beet Sugar Corporation, who have their registered offices in Glasgow.

South and West of England.

Asked whether the Local Government Committee would consider the advisability of consulting the newly appointed "Commission of Fine Arts," with regard to designs for War Memorials and monuments of a similar character in London, "in order to maintain an uniformity of artistic taste in public monuments," Mr. Andrew T. Taylor said the Council welcomed the appointment of the Commission, and his committee would in suitable cases consider the desirability of calling them into consultation.

In view of the opposition by the Lambeth Borough Council to certain clauses of the County Council's Lambeth Bridge Reconstruction Bill, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee stated that a conference was being arranged between the two bodies to secure, if possible, the withdrawal of the Borough Council's petition.

The Eastbourne Corporation have received sanction to build a model yacht lake as an unemployment relief measure. The lake is estimated to cost £10,000. Such a feature will undoubtedly be an attraction to the town and whilst one might be inclined to think that £10,000 might be better employed, on reflection it will be found that in all probability the maximum number of unemployed will be able to find work on such an undertaking.

Beckenham Art School is to be enlarged. This School has produced some very clever and able students in the past and we are glad to see that more accommodation is needed; it seems to indicate a healthy activity.

Sanction has been received by the Bromley Guardians for erecting additional accommodation for nurses at the Institution.

The Hengrave site, Torquay, is to be purchased for the erection of a new hospital. This purchase has been made possible through a generous gift of the sum of £8,000 by Mrs. Ella M. Rowcroft, of Pelmuir, who presents this sum to the town for the purchase of the site in memory of her late father and mother.

An extension to the premises of the Evelyn Nursing Home, Trumpington Road, is to be built. The plans have been passed by the Cambridge Town Council.

Mr. Percy Wells, architect, Aldershot, is carrying out his plans for the Aldershot Gas, Water and District Lighting Co., which comprise offices and showrooms.

A new school is to be erected at Fishponds by the Bristol Town Council.

Scotland.

The survey of the proposed Glasgow-Edinburgh Road has been completed and the first men will start work on the construction of the road in about four weeks' time.

We read that the possible public works undertaken by the Glasgow Corporation during the next two years would involve a capital expenditure of £11,000,000.

Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court granted warrant to the Edinburgh Hippodrome (Ltd.) to erect a picture house at the Leith Walk corner of Annandale Street. At previous sittings of the Court the question of the material to be used for the building had been the subject of disagreement, and at yesterday's sitting a specimen block of cement material was produced in the Court. The block was faced with a white mixture of atlas cement and sand, with Portland cement underneath.

Instructions have apparently been given for the opening of negotiations for the acquisition of ground on the Blythwood estate as a site for a new electricity generating station. A superstation will be needed by Glasgow in the course of the next few years if the progress of the past year was maintained with regard to the domestic and industrial use of electrical power.

The Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Board has approved of the Foresthill site upon which it is proposed to erect a hospital.

Glasgow Dean of Guild Court granted an application by the Corporation for sanction to proceed with a scheme of 276 tenement houses of three and four apartments each, the estimated total cost being £123,831.

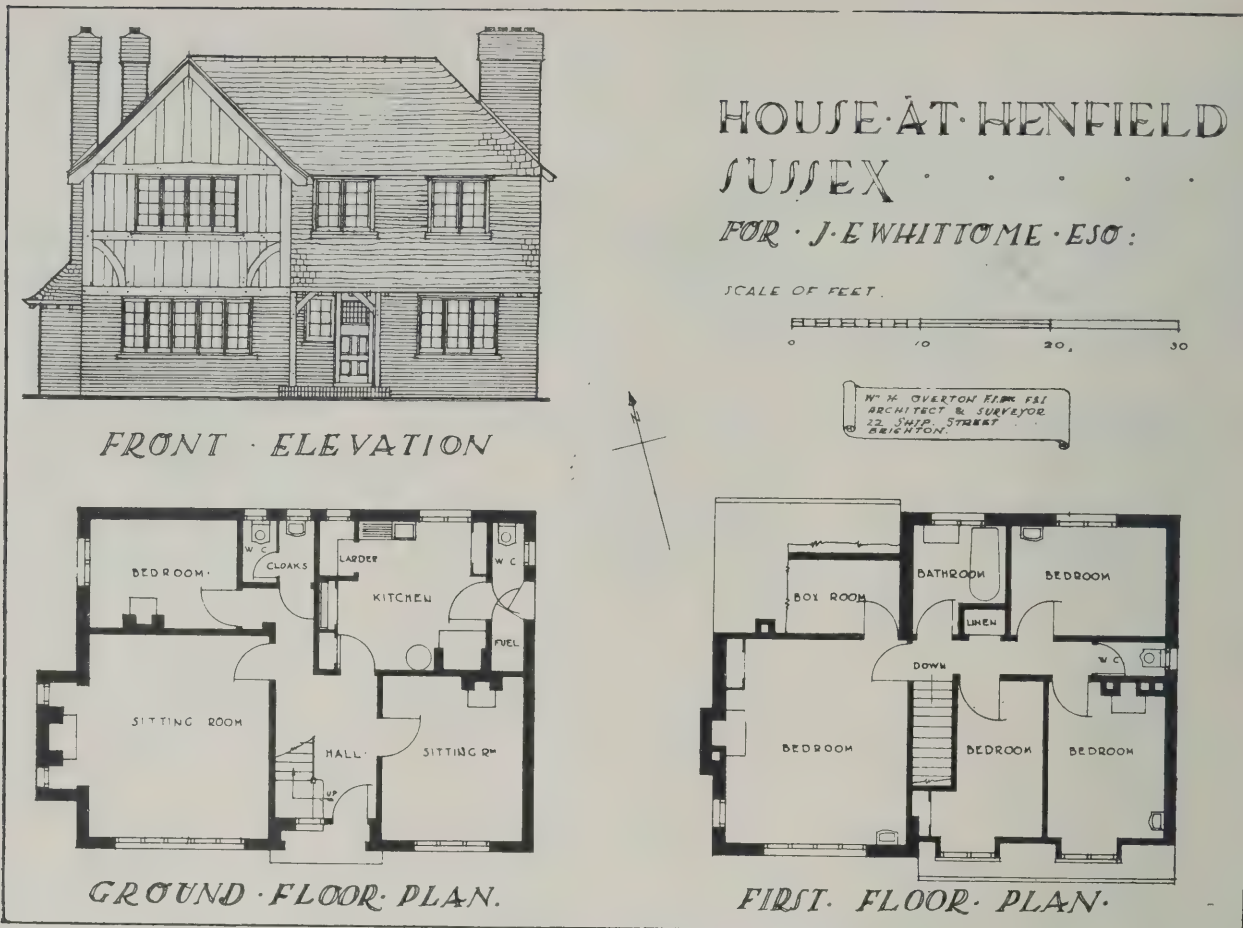
A tennis pavilion is to be erected at the corner of Gower Street and Kelbourne Street, Glasgow.

Extensive alterations are to be carried out for the Bank of Scotland Co. at Renfield Street and St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, involving an expenditure of over £43,000.

North of England.

The Bingley Urban District Council propose to erect baths which will include a swimming bath on the site formerly occupied by the Council's garages in Myrtle Park. The surveyor to the Council has been instructed to prepare a scheme and give an estimate of costs.

The extension scheme of the Abergele Sanatorium is to be discussed again by the Manchester Corporation. The proposed undertakings were of a considerable nature, involving nearly half a million sterling.



Housing.

South and West of England.

Six houses are to be built in Cranmore Lane at Aldershot.

The Eton Rural District Council have passed the plans for 21 houses to be built by private enterprise at Burnham.

Bournemouth has for some time past been enjoying a building boom, though the houses being erected are not suitable for the working classes. Local builders complain that they are unable to get the skilled labour they want, the reason given being that no accommodation exists for these men and their families. It has therefore been decided to build houses under the subsidy scheme, and offer these to the contractors' employees. There is every prospect of the scheme being a huge success.

At a recent meeting of the London County Council it was stated by the Chairman of the Housing Committee that the cost of the smallest type of house being erected by the Council (one of three rooms), including roads, sewers and land, was estimated at £510. The remunerative rent for such a house on the basis of the repayment of capital in 59 years was 13s. 6d. per week, exclusive of rates. The actual rent charged was 9s. 6d. per week, excluding rates. Under the Housing Act of 1923 the loss in the first 20 years was £13 per annum, of which £6 was borne by the taxpayer and £7 by the ratepayer. After the first 20 years the ratepayers would bear a loss of £1 per annum for the remaining 39 years.

The London County Council this week sanctioned a contract with Messrs. Holland & Hannen and Cubitts, Ltd., for the erection of 2,000 houses on the Downham Estate. The form of contract is "on the basis of cost price with a fee or commission varying as the cost may prove to be greater or less than the schedule prices prepared by the Council, as diminished by 2½ per cent. in accordance with the tender."

Bearing in mind that, in order to rank for State subsidy, the houses must be completed before 1st October, 1925, the Housing Committee of the Council felt that the magnitude of the work was a governing factor in determining their line of action. After due consideration of the whole of the circumstances, they came to the conclusion that the only practicable course to ensure provision of the houses within the time limit was to entrust the whole of the work of development of the estate to one large firm of contractors possessing "adequate powers and organisation and the necessary resources." The Committee recognised that the financial control of a "firm price" contract

would be difficult and complicated and that, owing to unstable conditions in the building trade and elsewhere, the tendency would be for tenderers to make large provisions for contingencies. The contract will contain a "break clause," which the Committee may put into operation "if for any sufficient reason such course should be deemed necessary or desirable." It also provides that the contractors, while being able to retain one-fourth of any saving below the "value" (their tendered estimate of the cost) of the work, will forfeit a like proportion of any excess if the value is exceeded. "Value," for the purposes of the contract, will be independent of fluctuations in wages and cost of materials.

The Council is making representations to the Minister of Health that the estate should benefit by any improved financial arrangements which may be embodied in any revised scheme of State aid to local authorities.

The plans for 23 houses were passed by the Town Council of Bexhill.

Messrs. Ripper, of Sible Hedingham, have offered to erect 50 houses at Brook Farm for the accommodation of their employees. They have made an application to the local authorities for a subsidy grant and a loan for the purpose of providing the necessary funds for the scheme. The houses will be built of concrete and will probably cost about £400 each.

The Cambridge Town Council passed the plans for a house in Richmond Road, another in Leys Road, a house and garage in Milton Road, a house in Huntingdon Road, and a house in Trumpington Road.

We read the arguments of Mr. J. T. Segrue's article in the "Financial Times" of February 25, entitled "The Finance of Housing," with considerable interest. With regard to the question of type A houses for the member of the public whose income averages £2 10s. per week, we fully realise that the rent he should be called upon to pay including rates should not exceed £19 10s. per annum or 7s. 6d. per week. Mr. Segrue's calculations leave a deficit of £4 5s. 6d. per annum to be set off by the Housing Act of 1923 subsidy of £6 per year. On the basis that an investor requires 7 per cent. net minimum yield on his capital the erection of such houses must be left to the local authorities.



Preserving timber with SOLIGNUM at Bush House, Kingsway

All the wooden floor joists, battens, bearers, etc., used in the new Bush Building, Kingsway, are being dipped in **SOLIGNUM** before fixing

This is the best possible insurance against dry rot and decay



205 BOROUGH HIGH STREET, S.E.1

Scotland.

The Edinburgh Corporation have invited tenders from building firms for the erection of from 800 to 1,000 houses, mainly of three apartments, with scullery, bath, etc. Full particulars, see our Contracts Open page.

The Glasgow Dean of Guild Court, passed the plans for 100 terrace houses, which are to contain four rooms and a kitchen each. The scheme is the largest scheme under the provision of the Housing Act of 1923 relating to subsidies to private builders.

The plans for the erection of 61 dwelling houses at Clark Avenue were passed by the Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court. Each house is to have five rooms and a scullery, and to cost the purchaser under £500, allowing for the £100 subsidy. We read that all the houses have already been sold and that many additional applications have been received. The scheme is known as Councillor Baxter's housing scheme.

We read in a contemporary journal that the Under Secretary for Health for Scotland stated that the number of certificates issued by Local Authorities in Scotland as at December 31, 1923, authorising the erection of houses by private enterprise under the Housing, etc., Act, 1923, covered 557 houses, of which 12 had been completed at that date. The number of houses approved to date for erection by Local Authorities in Scotland under the 1923 Act is 12,018; of these 208, all of which were erected under slum clearance schemes, had been completed at December 31, 1923. The number approved for erection as at the above date in connection with slum clearance schemes was 5,877, and the number in connection with schemes for new houses was 6,723.

One hundred terrace houses are to be built in Munro Road, Austen Road, and Chamberlain Road, Glasgow. The Glasgow Dean and Guild Court passed the necessary plans at their last meeting.

We read that the latest census returns show that 11.75 per cent. and 40.11 per cent. of the occupied houses in Scotland are one and two apartment houses respectively. This would mean that half the occupied houses of Scotland contain only either one or two apartments.

North of England.

The Blackpool Town Council have passed the plans for four houses in Garton Avenue, five in Leamington Road, two in Trent Road, eight in Levens Grove, fifty on the Red Bank Park estate, Bispham, three in Devonshire and Boothby Roads, five in Borough Road and Lilac Avenue, four in Newcastle Avenue, and two in Rothsay Road.

The Urban District Council at Bognor passed the plans for 114 houses in Sheepwash Lane.

The Bolton Town Council passed the plans for the following houses: Four off Back Ivy Bank Road, two in Bury Road, two in Devonshire Road, two in New Church Road, two in Carlton Road, two in Greenmount Lane.

Invitations for tenders have been issued in respect to the erection of 72 pairs of A type south houses and 16 pairs of A type north houses on the Peel Green estate, Eccles. Full particulars, see our Contracts Open page in this issue.

Bungalows.

Considerable building activities are taking place at Great Bookham. The Epsom Rural District Council passed the plans for the following bungalows in their district: One in Number One Road, another in Guildford Road, two in Eastwick Drive, another in the same road, and another in Guildford Road. In the Lower Road a bungalow is to be erected and one also is to be built in Number Six Road and one in Middle Road.

The Barnsley Corporation passed the plans for some bungalows at their last meeting.

The Beeston Urban District Council passed the plans for four bungalows.

At Blackpool the Town Council approved of the plans of such a type of house in Winchester Avenue.

The Bolton Town Council reviewed and approved of the plans for a bungalow in Church Road.

The Carlisle City Council have received permission to build concrete bungalows. They hope to build 200, if sanction can be obtained.

The Eton Rural District Council have passed the plans for 32 bungalows.

The Dewsbury Corporation approved of the plans for a bungalow in Wakefield Road and another in Leeds Road.

The Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court passed the plans for four bungalows off Hillview Terrace, and a fifth at Drumbrae.

The Romford Rural District Council had before them recently the plans for a bungalow in Arundel Road.

The Hastings Corporation passed such types of houses.

The Urban District Council of Newton Abbot, Devonshire, passed the plans of several bungalows to be erected in their district. We gave in our issue of January 25 some very representative plans and elevations of this type of house.

Trade Notes.

Tenders for reflooring with wood blocks portion of Ward 5 of the Baguley Sanatorium have been invited. Particulars from the Housing Department, Civic Buildings, 1 Mount Street, Manchester. Deposit 10s 6d. Date, March 5.

Invitations for tenders for the erection of 12 houses in pairs on the Big Field Housing Site, Lower Green, Poulton-le-Fylde, have been issued. See particulars on Contracts Open page.

Tenders have been invited for sewage disposal at Hale, Cheshire. Deposit, £5. Date, March 7. Full particulars on Contracts Open page.

Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, of Holborn Viaduct, London, have fitted their latest "Air Pump" ventilators at the Victory Miners' Hall, Consett, Co. Durham, and to the Manchester and County Bank, Blackpool.

Messrs. Blagg & Johnson, Ltd., sheet metal workers, of Newark-on-Trent, forward us particulars of their "Jupiter" plaster corner bead, which they have introduced to take the place of the wood angle staff. Messrs. Blagg & Johnson claim that their production is cheaper and far more effective in preparing external corners of all classes of plaster work. The plaster corner bead is made from galvanised steel, and is secured to the brickwork by driving nails through the small holes which are prepared at intervals of 2 ft. The advantages claimed are that they are easily fixed, plugging of walls not required, very light but exceptionally strong, can be cut to required length, the corner is considerably strengthened, shrinkage entirely obviated, and a considerable saving in cost.



The photograph reproduced affords an interesting example of the application of reinforced concrete to flat roofing. The premises shown are those of Messrs. Birrell's, Ltd., of Anniesland, Glasgow, and the reconstructed portion is covered by one continuous roof slab. The architect is George A. Boswell, Esq., and the contractors Messrs. John Green & Co., Ltd., of Glasgow. In constructional work of this character the accurate distribution of the reinforcement is of first importance and the employment of the steel mesh assists to a great extent in the elimination of possible error. The mesh used in this case was "Maxweld" electrically welded fabric made and supplied by Messrs. Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., reinforced concrete engineers, of Middlesbrough and London. The fabric is a straightforward steel wire reinforcement and is supplied in single or double layer form ready for immediate laying. It is very simple in manipulation and the patent process of welding assures the maintenance of accurate spacing throughout the operation of laying. The increasing use of steel fabric for reinforcing floors, flat roofs and foundation rafts has given rise to some differences of opinion as to the advantages or otherwise of hard drawn steel over mild steel for constructional purposes. In order to meet the requirements of every user Messrs. Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., are producing their electrically welded fabric in both hard drawn steel and mild steel to British Standard Specification. This innovation will be of considerable interest to engineers, surveyors, and architects generally and will probably result in the extended use of this fabric for constructional purposes.

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Architectural Evolution.

We have given the opinions of many architects on the present position of architectural design and on the changes and development likely to be produced by the conditions of the times. To a certain extent we agree with many of the views put forward, but some of them are, we feel, actuated by the desire to prove that changes which have come about for purely material reasons indicate altered beliefs and new views. It is undoubtedly true that much of our modern building is simpler than that which preceded it, but the simplification can be accurately put down to two factors, the first being a greater disposition to design in the more formal manner of the developed Renaissance—a style in which much exuberant detail was eliminated, and, more than this, the much greater pressure of the economic factor which compels us to eliminate detail and forms we should otherwise be glad to employ. The difficulty of making buildings satisfactory and expressive under these new conditions leads many to attempt to invent something novel to make up for the absence of detail which has mainly been eliminated for reasons of cost. The buildings erected after the Napoleonic Wars, when money was scarce and the cost of buildings relatively high, were similarly simplified, but in those times none attempted to argue that a new mode of expression was being created or that mankind had reason to expect a new revelation.

Besides the factors we have mentioned are others, one of the principal of which is the invention of the motor car, which has unquestionably had an immense effect in the average size of the house a man is satisfied with. The cost of the motor and its upkeep has undoubtedly been in many cases deducted from the amount a man was formerly willing to spend in building. In addition, it has in a large measure destroyed the sense of locality, as a man who is used to cover wide areas of country as a relaxation becomes much more indifferent to the advantages of any particular locality. The great difficulty and expense of service in these days has its immediate effect on building, to which may be added the greater weight of rates and taxes.

The factors we have enumerated are all material ones, but they are the ones which tend to produce alteration in types and methods of building. Many of them are permanent; some, it is to be hoped, are but temporary.

We do not for a moment think that outside the considerations which we have enumerated there is anything which is leading the public to alter its views or to form new ones. The rest mainly rests in the hands of architects themselves. We have of later years paid increasing attention to Georgian architecture, and every additional building of that type put up will tend to induce the average man to hail it as being the most suitable type of design.

But should some genius arise who produced great buildings of a Jacobean type, it might only be a matter of years before he had many followers and before the

public "caught on" to the new type as being the right thing. For there is now no tradition to mould building save the more or less prevalent tradition of design as expressed by the architects of the time.

If no architect were to exercise his vocation for ten years the buildings erected in the interval would be a more or less unintelligent jumble of what men had seen around them. We have, it is true, many good craftsmen to-day who can carry out work which would have been impossible in Victorian times, but such craftsmanship is hardly a natural growth, but chiefly the result of the work of a few men who have to carry out architects' instructions, and were these not forthcoming the ability would die from want of use.

Very often such specialised skill is the result of aptitude and not of instinctive taste, and we have known men who could produce good work in craftsmanship for which they had no personal taste or liking.

Our commercial buildings are problems of space and cost, the financial side of which alone interests their owners. From a standpoint of design, it is chiefly their value as advertisements which is considered, otherwise the architect is free to do what he chooses. No doubt the greater attention given to architectural training is a factor likely to improve the general level of architectural design, and if every architect designed well, and no buildings were erected without an architect's employment, the public would in time demand to be satisfied by work which came up to the expected standard. But in this it would be governed by prevailing fashion and not by instinctive taste.

Our conclusion is that material reasons alone govern what changes have come about, that the public have no instinctive taste that can be relied on, but that the more architects agree with one another as to types of design the greater will be the probability that the public will accept what they do as the right or expected thing.

Those to whom buildings represent more than space, cost and convenience live in a back-water unfrequented by the average man, who has interests which are to him more vital and important, and we doubt if anything is likely to occur to shake this conclusion.

Meantime we quite agree with Mr. Goodhart-Rendel that the demand for a new style is a manifestation of servile stylism and that the avoidance of accustomed forms is a negative impulse which is likely to lead nowhere. We have lost that great help an assured tradition understood and practised by every man in the different building crafts, a tradition which assured us of reasonable and interesting work everywhere. We have in its place a body of architects with greater powers and more educational opportunities than those ever possessed before, and we have the public perfectly willing to accept what is given them with a sufficient air of authority and belief and sufficient unanimity of architectural opinion. What can be produced under the new conditions may be

judged of in fifty years' time, but not to-day ; but be it what it may, it will stand in the same relation to the work of the past that the hothouse orchid does to the wild flower. It will not, and cannot, be a natural growth, but a product to be valued by those who are sufficiently educated or interested in the subject to regard it from the standpoint of the connois-

seur. The only thing that would alter this would be the teaching of architecture in all schools as an obligatory subject, a scheme unlikely to commend itself even to those who would provide x number of million houses for the people, at the taxpayers' expense and in accordance with the demands of the Trades Unions.

Our Illustrations.

BRAMFILLS, NEAR COWDEN. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects,

COTTAGE ON TREVEDRA CLIFF. WILLIAM T. BENSLYN, Architect.

PROPOSED BOYS' AND GIRLS' SCHOOL, RAINWORTH, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. L. MAGGS, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., County Architect.

Proposed Boys' and Girls' School, Rainworth, Notts. L. MAGGS, COUNTY ARCHITECT.

This school is being erected by the Notts Education Committee in the colliery village at Rainworth. It provides accommodation for 698 children in 14 classrooms and contains a central hall and manual and domestic instruction rooms.

It is constructed of local bricks with stone dressings, and the roofs are slated. The walls are plastered inside, the floors boarded on concrete and granolithic floors to corridors, cloak-rooms, etc.

The buildings are heated by a low pressure hot water system and lit by electricity supplied from the colliery.

The amount of the contract is £14,600, which includes a cottage for a caretaker. The contractor is Mr. T. Bow, Nottingham. The constructional steelwork, fencing and gates was carried out and supplied by Messrs. G. Sands and Son, Ltd., Colwick, Nottinghamshire. The door and window furniture, as well as the general ironmongery, was supplied by Messrs. Wing and Webb, Ltd., Wolverhampton. The electric light fittings and wiring was carried out by Messrs. Henry Barker, Ltd., Nottingham. The heating installation and plant was carried out by Messrs. Thos. Danks and Co., Ltd., Nottingham. The sanitary fittings were supplied by Messrs. Adamez, Ltd., Scotswood-on-Tyne.

Notes and Comments.

Colour Index.

Dr. F. M. Rowe, of the Manchester College of Technology, was appointed some time ago to edit the material collected by the Society of Dyers and Colourists. His work is now finished, and has been published in a monumental volume entitled "The Colour Index." The book is arranged in four sections, dealing with synthetic organic dyestuffs; natural organic dyestuffs; natural and artificial inorganic colouring matters; and general indices. Each article is dealt with under four heads:—Commercial name; scientific name, components, and formula; preparation, discoverer and literature. To-day, colour plays a very great part in architectural expression, and any work which will increase our knowledge and facilitate those who desire to experiment in the use of colouring matters in connection with building and decorating is worthy of our notice and support.

Manchester City Council Annual Review.

At the meeting of the Manchester City Council held last Wednesday, Councillor Dennison moved: "That in view of the continuing gravity of the local unemployment problem this Council desires the various committees promptly to reconsider their policy in the matters of transport, lighting, and provision of workmen's cottages, with the object of absorbing, if possible, skilled labour on public utility works."

Councillor W. Robinson's motion was as follows:—"That the City Council hereby instructs the Town Hall Committee to make arrangements for the publication of an annual review of the chief civic activities and developments during the preceding year, such review to be popularly written, in non-technical language, with illustrations where needed, so that the citizens may be kept in touch with the work of the various departments and committees of the Council." We cannot visualise the actual benefits that will be conferred on the citizens by the publication of such a review, which will doubtless be rather an expensive production. What citizens in general like to know is what City Councils are doing and about to do. The publication of an annual review of works executed cannot assist unemployment or the erection of much needed houses and cottages.

Officials "Impressed."

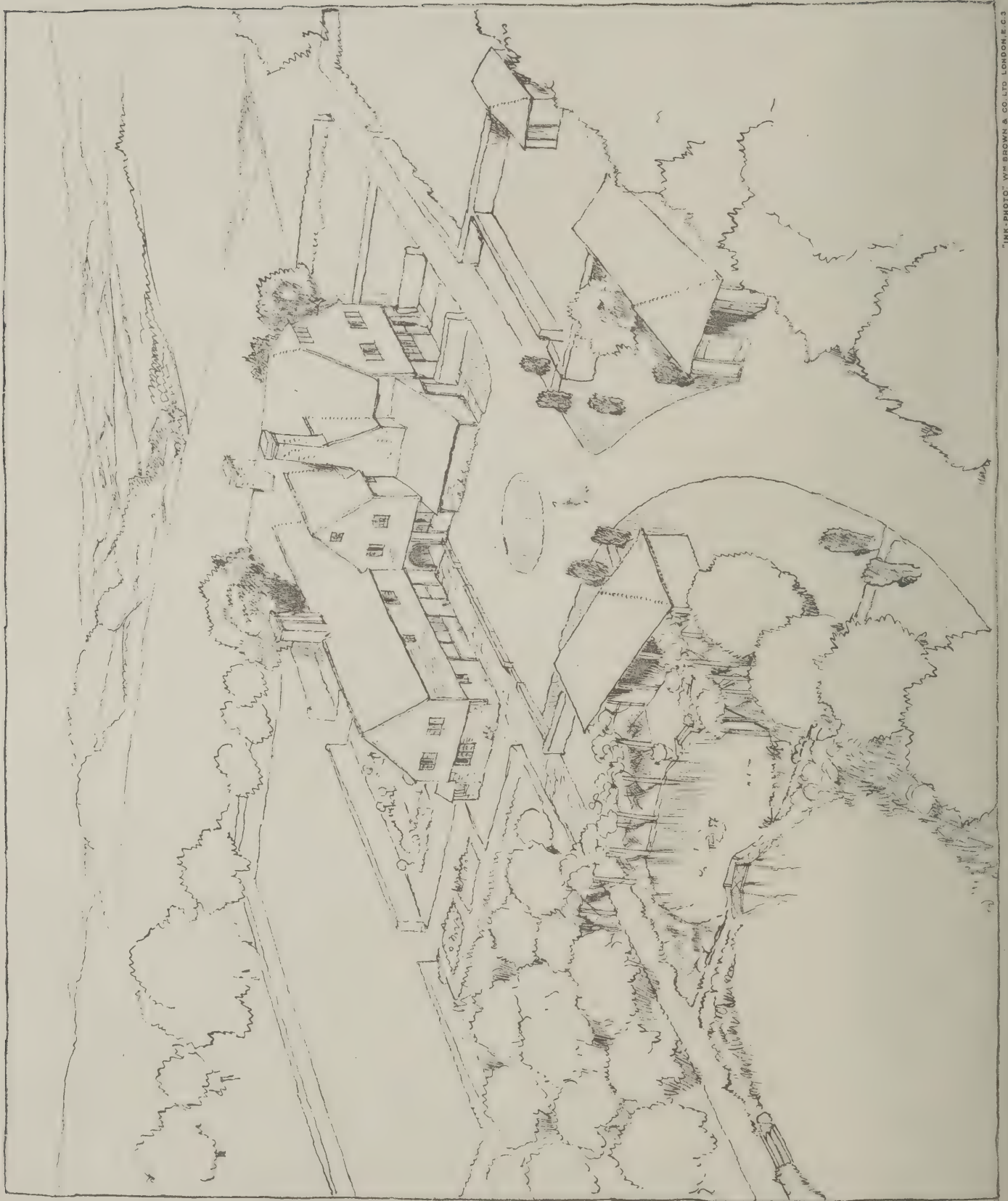
We read that a certain lumber company of the United States of America and Canada can produce wooden houses by means of mass production ready for erection in Great Britain for about £275 each. The houses are two storeys high and built in pairs, each containing a living room, kitchen, bathroom and three bedrooms. Details have been placed before the leading officials of the Ministry of Health and these gentlemen have been "impressed." We seem to remember the official mind being in this state on many former occasions and yet houses have not appeared.

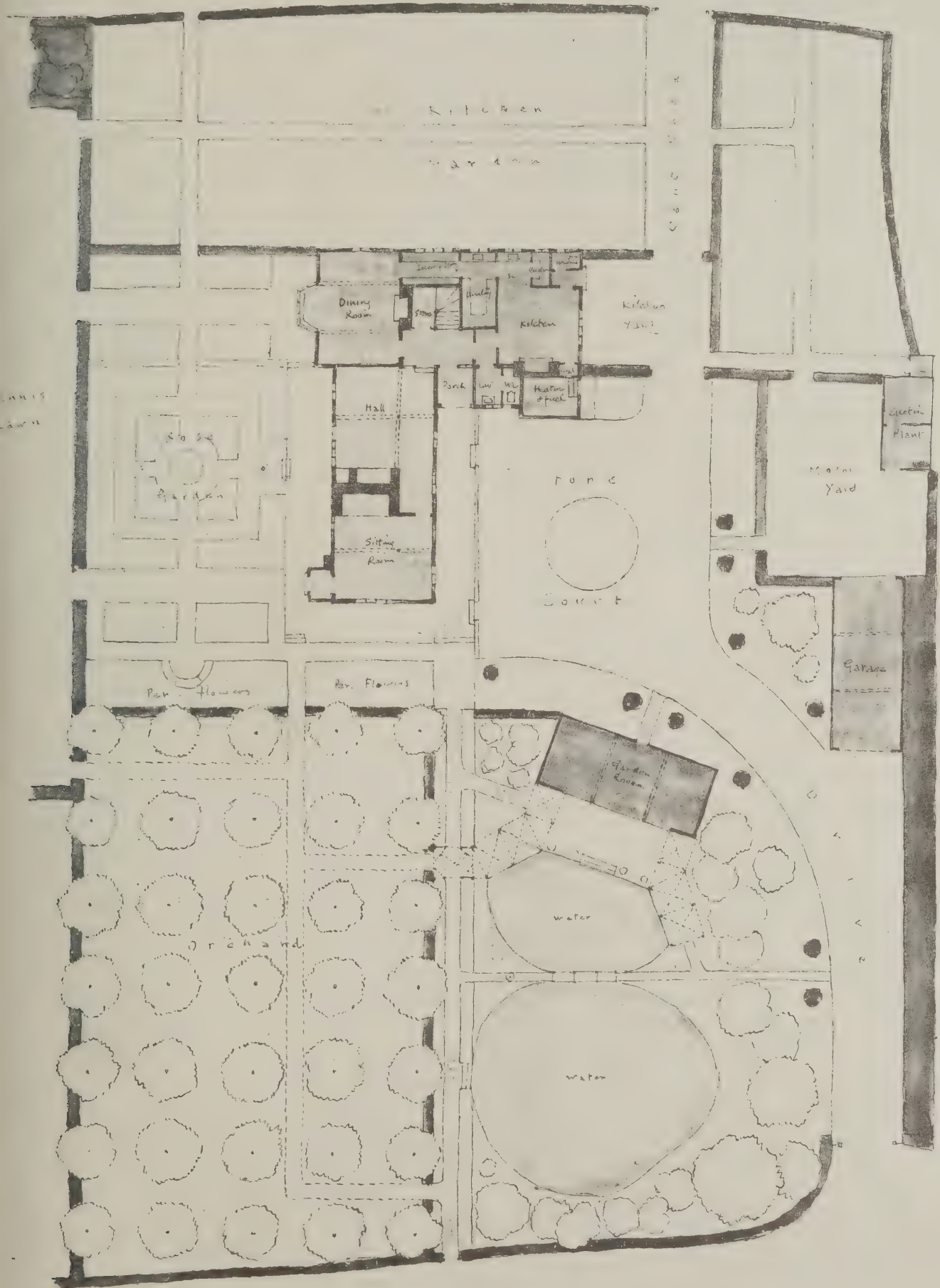
It would be interesting to know upon what evidence the promoters of this scheme based their conclusions that the officials were "impressed." The architectural profession would be most grateful for guidance on this matter, as the occasions are many when its members are obliged to interview the officials of the Ministry of Health, and to be able to form some tangible judgment as to the effect of the interview would be of great value.

Fine Arts Commission Secretary.

We most heartily congratulate Mr. H. C. Bradshaw on his appointment to the secretaryship of the Fine Arts Commission. Mr. Bradshaw received his architectural education at the Liverpool School of Architecture. In 1913 he won the Rome Scholarship. Whilst the Liverpool School of Architecture can assuredly feel gratified at the success achieved by one of her former scholars, some satisfaction can also be felt by the Architectural Association, where Mr. Bradshaw has been lecturing. Mr. Bradshaw will bring to his new position some very rare qualities and combination of qualities. Besides having a fine appreciation for the Arts he has given us some very good illustrations of his personal abilities as a draughtsman. We recall the drawing made for Sir Aston Webb & Son, architects, entitled "Design for the Bank of Chile, Santiago," exhibited in the Royal Academy exhibition two years ago. Another very fine drawing was "A Proposed Factory, Welwyn, Herts," made for Louis de Soissons, architect. We have

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BRAMFILLS, NEAR COWDEN.

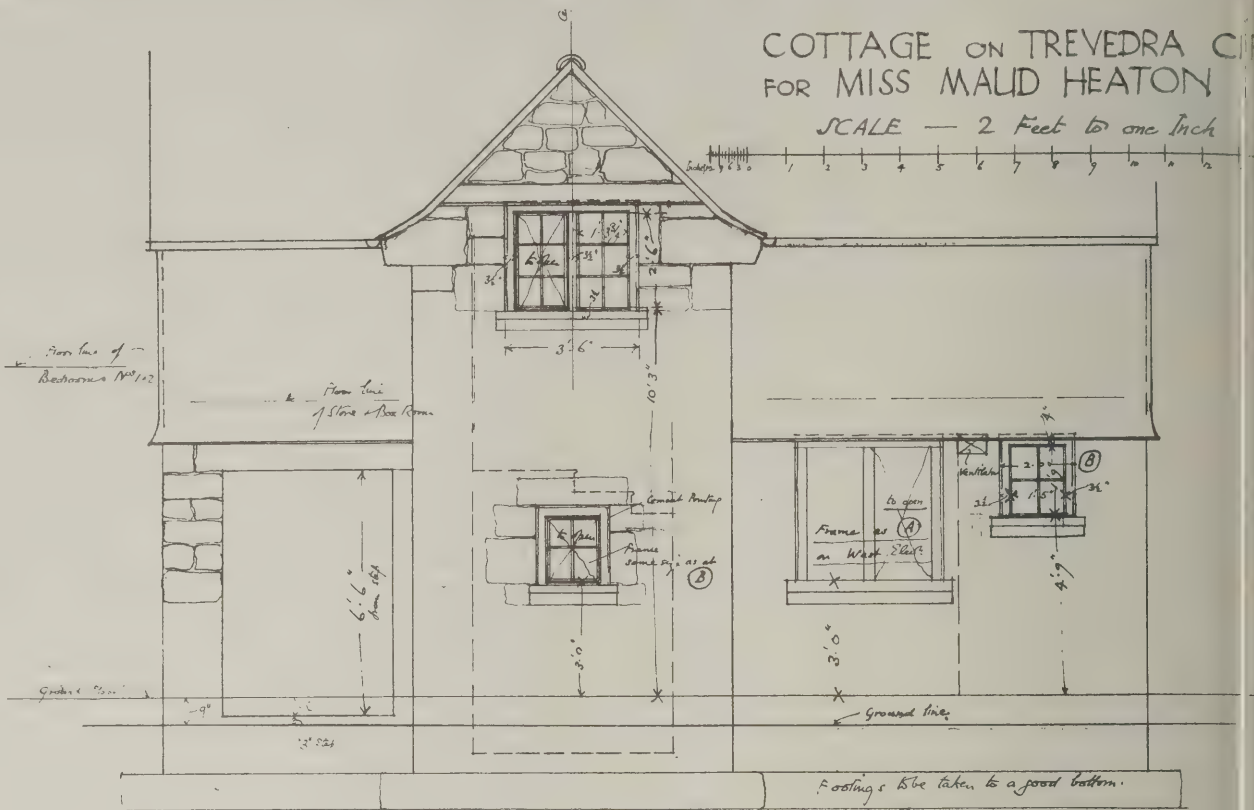
BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, ARCHITECTS.

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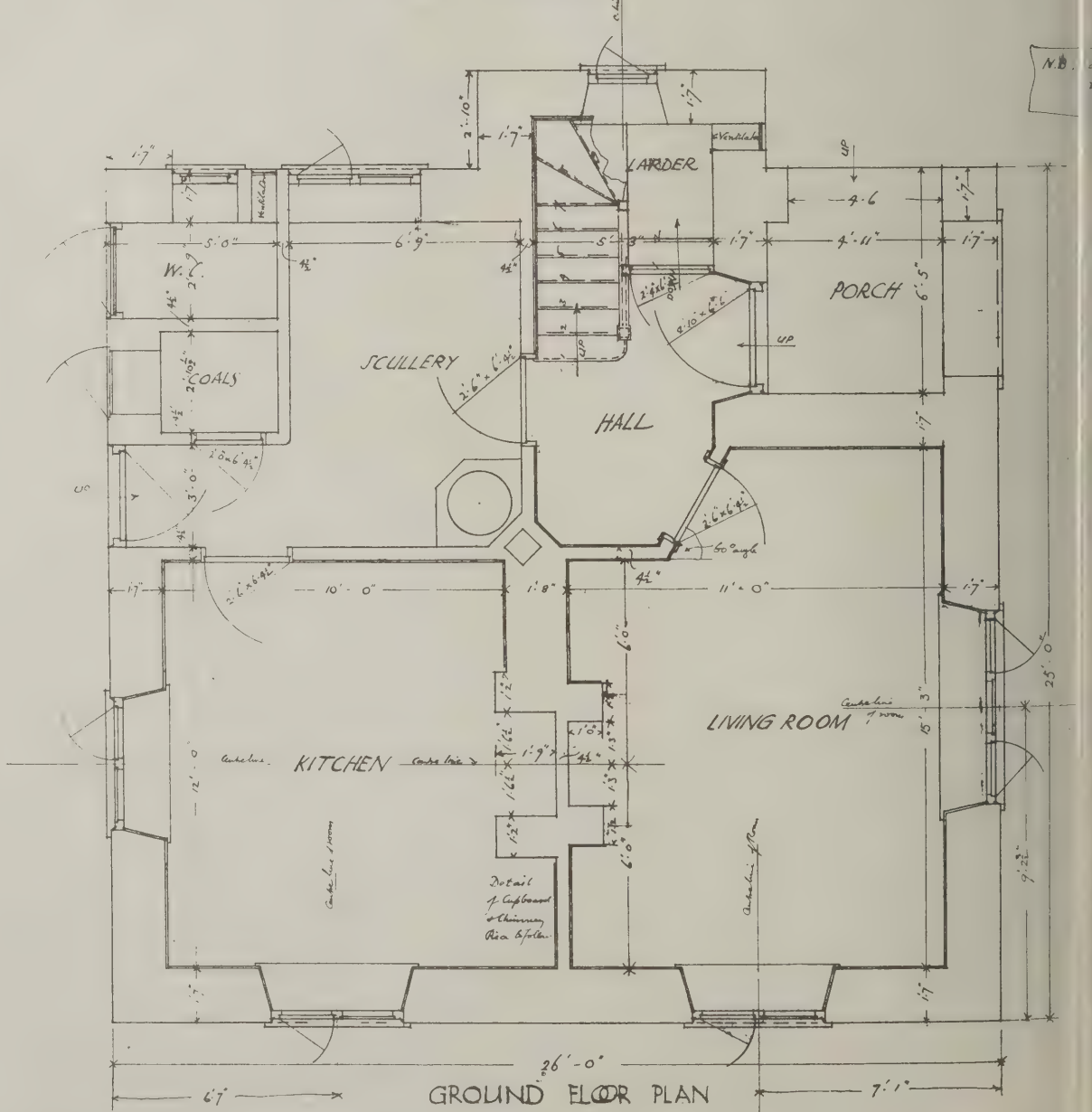
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COTTAGE ON TREVEDRA C
FOR MISS MAUD HEATON

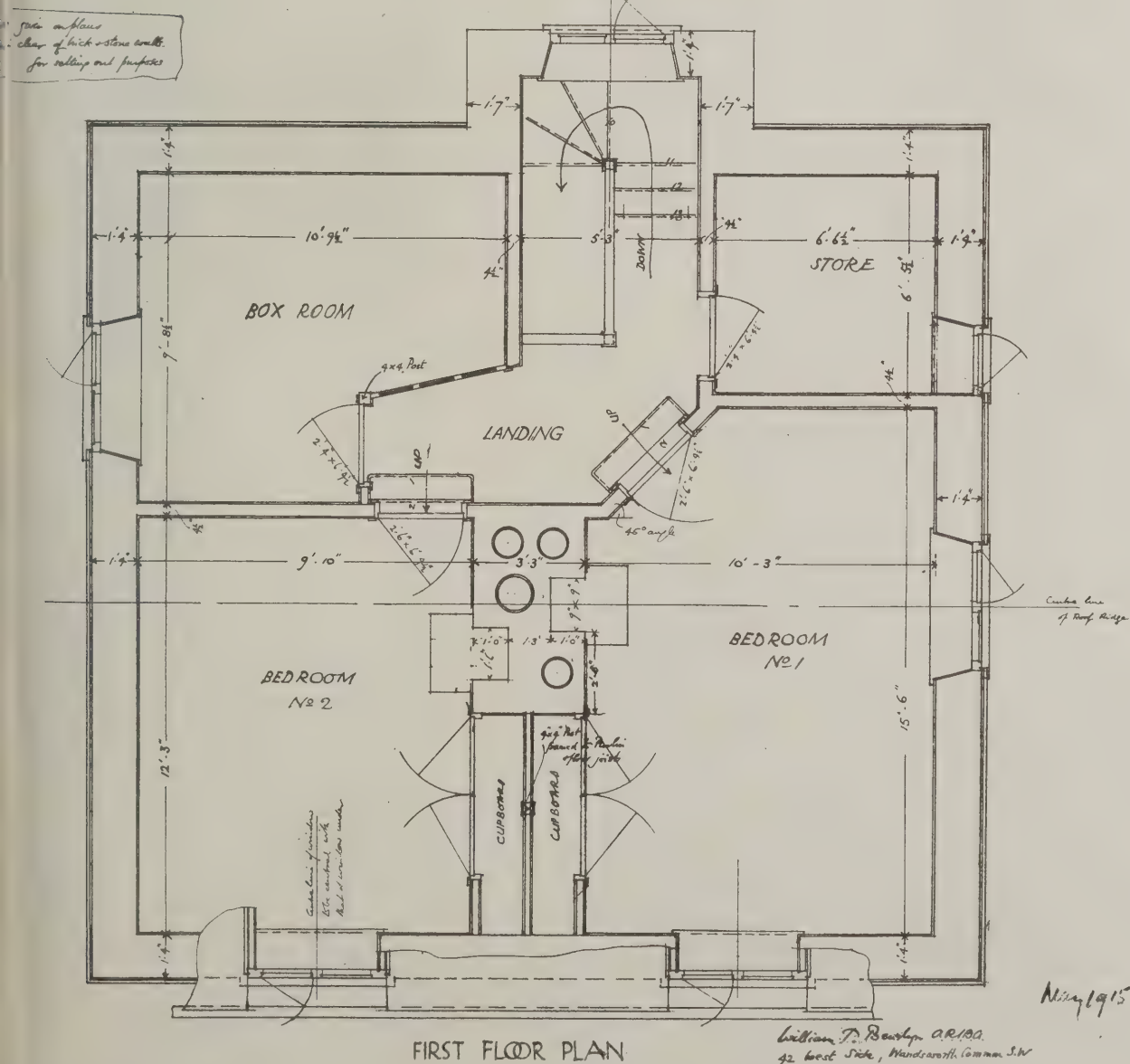
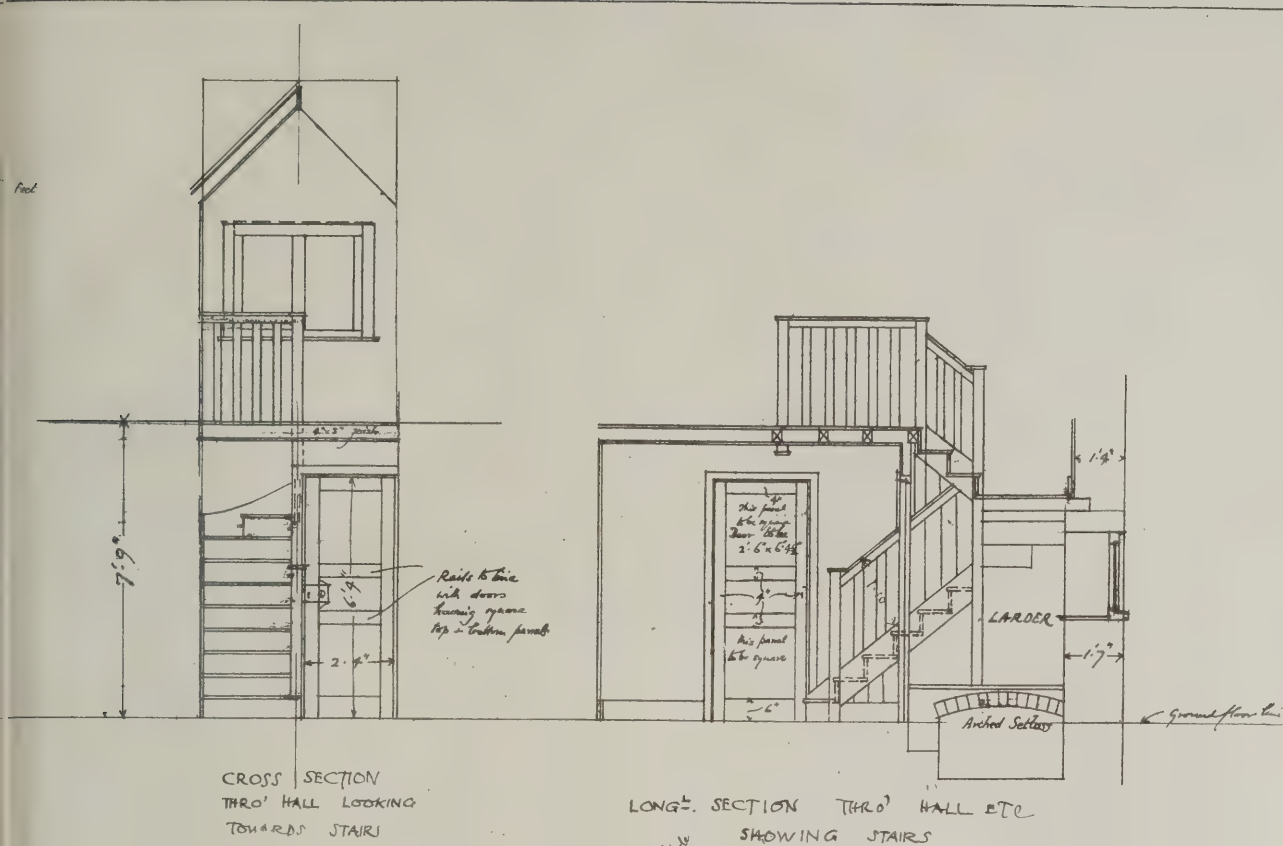
SCALE — 2 Feet to one Inch



REAR ELEVATION



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



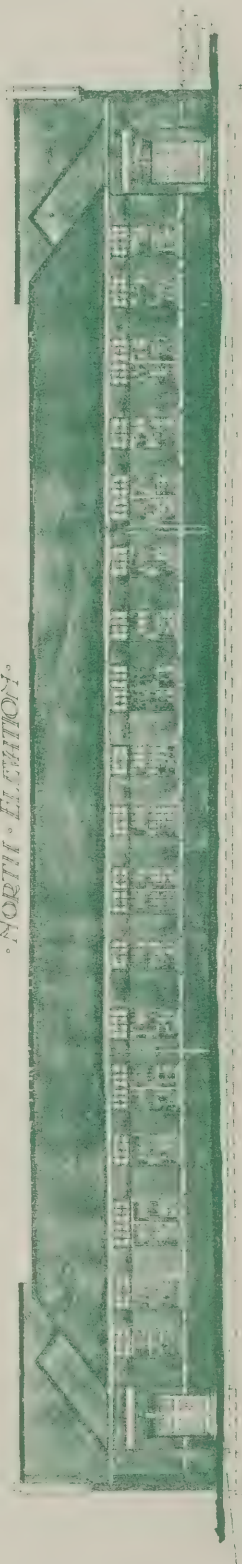
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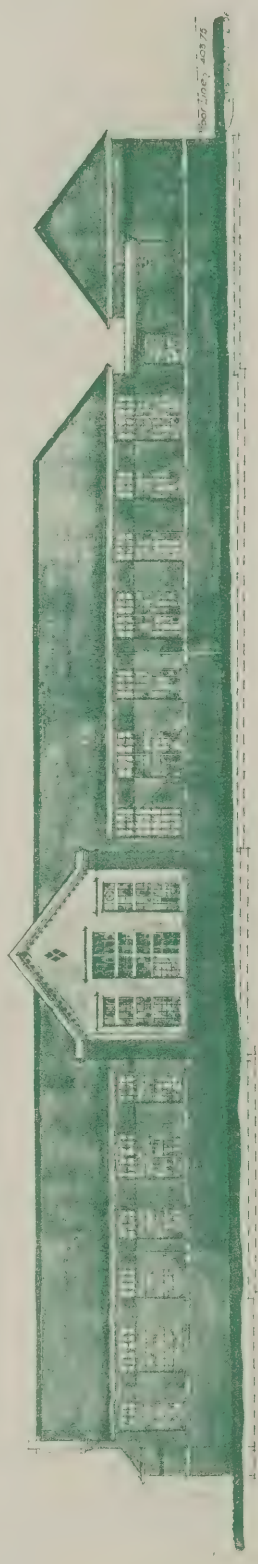
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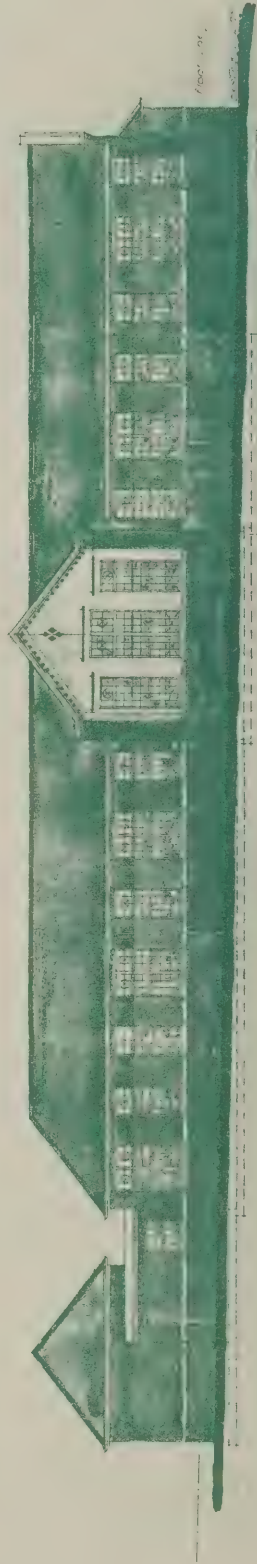


NOTE. - All Paintings (except Heating Chamber) to be
9' higher than as shown.

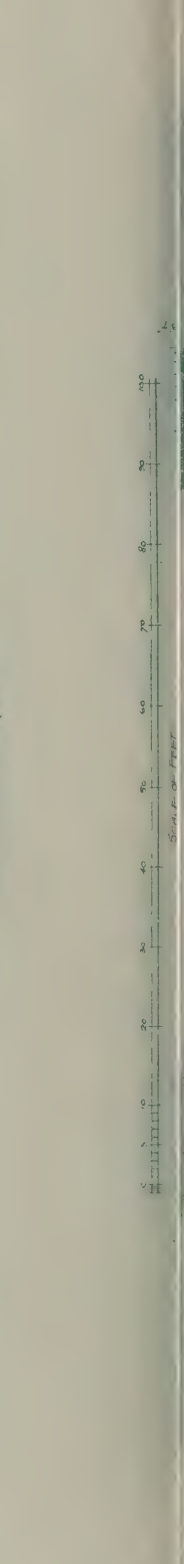
· SOUTH · ELEVATION ·

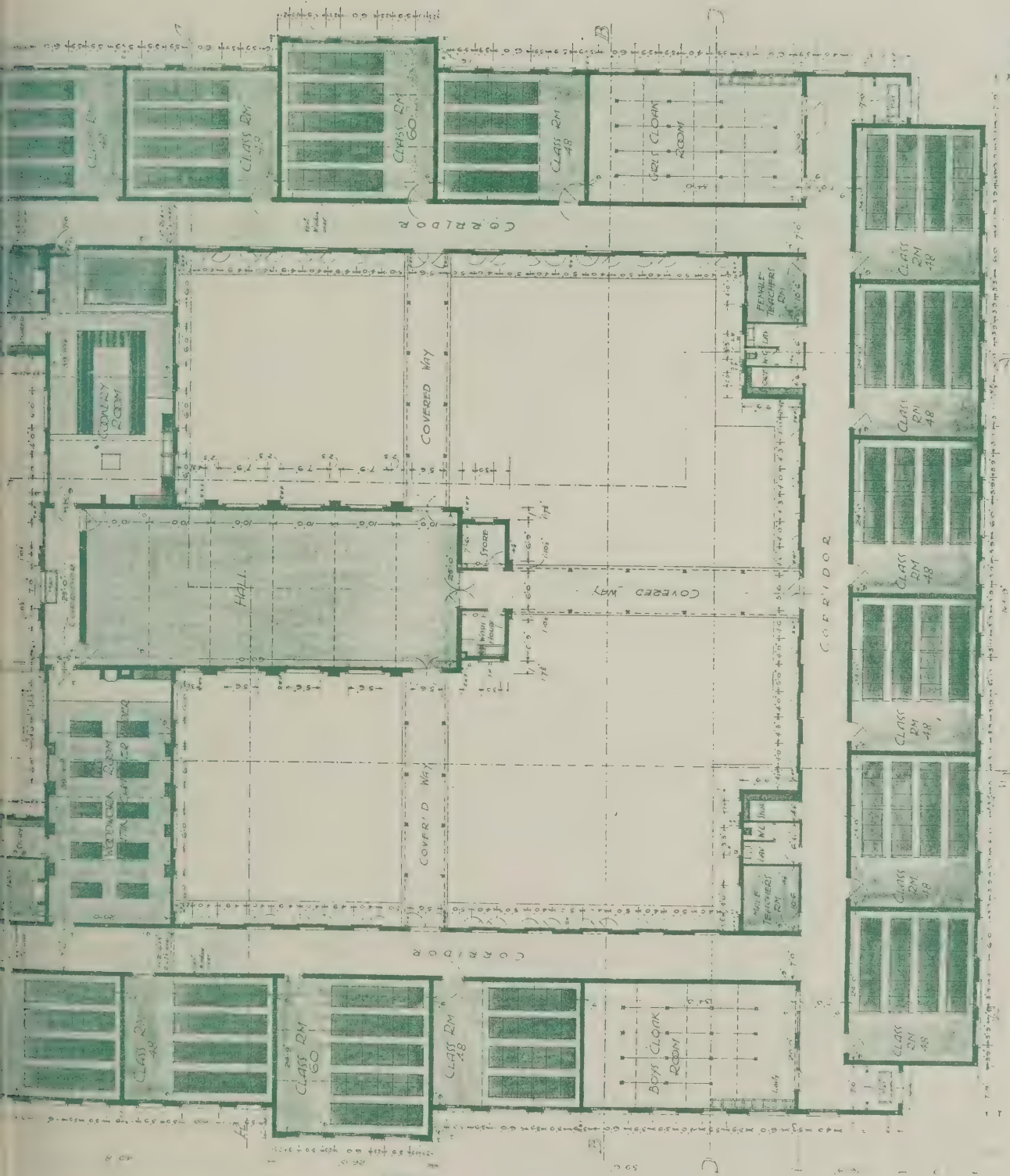


· WEST · ELEVATION ·



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• GROUND PLAN •

1. Plans & E. & W. E. & S. & N. & P. & M. & L. & K. & J. & I. & H. & G. & F. & E. & D. & C. & B. & A. & 0.
COUNTY ARCHT.
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BOYS AND GIRLS SCHOOL, RAINWORTH, NOTTS.

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always found him charmingly polite and considerate to our needs, and we feel certain that he will fill his new position with every success, and to this end we are sure he has, with our own, all the good wishes of those with whom he has come in personal contact.

Public Libraries.

From a letter published in a recent issue of the "Manchester Guardian," we gather that those who attended a lecture at the Manchester Town Hall on the subject of "The Work of our Municipal Libraries" were not altogether pleased at the contrast between the modern American libraries, of which illustrations were shown, and the accommodation afforded in our own municipal institutions. We cannot offer any excuse for our buildings and the accommodation they supply except that perhaps the central sites chosen by our authorities—so as to meet the convenience of as many readers as possible—could not permit of the erection of more commodious buildings. The cities of America are young in comparison with our towns, and the difficulties which prevail here are non-existent on the other side of the Atlantic.

Development of New Brighton, Cheshire.

Particulars will be found in our advertising columns of a very fine site for development for a residential quarter for Liverpool and surrounding districts; the area covered is 13,500 yards of land situated at New Brighton, Cheshire, within easy distance of Liverpool, Birkenhead, etc., and within the control of the Corporation of Wallasey. The property is in an ideal position overlooking the whole of the Mersey estuary. The climate is bracing and exhilarating and there is a fine stretch of sands. The position is particularly suitable for the erection of residential mansions and flats, for which there is a great demand, and a modern hotel, club and theatre would be a paying proposition. The estate is within two minutes of the pier for the ferry service, the railway station and the electric tram service. The proposition is not a speculative one, for the demand should far exceed the building in such a position. Reference to the advertisement which is issued by the Wallasey Corporation will give fuller details.

Luxury Buildings.

It has been published in Parliamentary papers that the Minister of Health is refusing sanction to the raising of a loan of £67,000 by the Hastings Borough Council towards the cost of erecting a new Music Pavilion on the ground that skilled building labour would be diverted from work of a more urgent nature; other schemes are being turned down for a similar reason. The decision is an unreasonable one, for the class of firm engaged and the class of workman employed on such undertakings are not the men who would find the capital and work for the building of cottages and villas. We presume that such work is in the mind of the Minister when giving his decision.

We read that the Dunlop Company, Birmingham, is offering houses to their employees at cost price. A sum of £100 as a deposit is necessary in the case of a staff house and £50 in the case of smaller houses. The company's construction department have prepared the plans for the roads and general development.

The old-established firm of T. S. Pulford & Sons, for over half a century of 77 Cannon Street, E.C., paint, colour and varnish manufacturers, have amalgamated with Endurite (1921), Ltd., and their works and offices are now at Atlas Works, Hatcham Road, London, S.E. Messrs. Pulford are the original inventors of Pulford's Damp Wall Paint and Iron Oxide of Paint.

The plans for a tennis pavilion for the Great Lever Tennis Club were passed by the Bolton Town Council. The pavilion is to be erected in Manchester Road. A sports pavilion is also to be built off the Lonsdale Road, and another tennis pavilion in Waddington Road for the Halliwell and Heaton Village Club.

Mr. Douglas Wood, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., has resigned his appointment with the Ministry of Health and has returned to his private practice at 35 Craven Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. Mr. Wood was Housing Commissioner for ten Midland counties.

Available Skilled Labour.

The report of the Committee appointed by the National Housing and Town Planning Council to investigate the extent of the skilled labour available in the Building Trade throws a considerable light on the housing shortage. It appears from the report that the falling off during the past twenty-two years has been very serious. In 1901 the total number of skilled craftsmen engaged in the building trade amounted to 828,462. In January of this year the number was 369,030.

The Committee have reached the conclusion that the first of the causes of the shortage is to be found in the fact that for many years past the number of apprentices flowing into the industry has been insufficient in volume to replace the depletions in the industry. The gravity of the situation in this regard can be gathered from the fact that the census figures for 1921 showed that there were then in training only about 21,000 apprentices for the crafts of bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, slaters, and plasterers, who number, roughly, 300,000. But if the proportion of one in four be adopted as a fair average, there could have been 75,000 apprentices. The reasons for this shortage of apprentices are:—

The unwillingness of parents to place their children in an industry which does not offer steadiness of employment at a good standard wage, and the difference in general attractiveness of careers opening out in other industries. The absence of any kind of responsibility—falling on the employer—for securing and training apprentices. The entire cessation of apprenticeship during the war. There has been a substantial depletion in the number of skilled craftsmen, arising from: Migration to other industries in times of depression in the pre-war period. Losses to the industry during the war period as a result of death or migration to other industries; and emigration to other countries, both before the war and since the war.

The number of houses required in England and Wales is stated to be 3,350,000, and in Scotland 611,000. For a scheme extending over twenty years there should be 165,000 to 175,000 houses built annually in England and Wales and 30,000 annually in Scotland, or an average of 200,000 per year. The number of skilled craftsmen needed to build this number of houses per year is given as 127,740.

The Committee submit the following recommendations:—

The Government should be asked to make a clear declaration of determination to carry into effect a long-run housing policy.

The number of apprentices in training should be brought up to the level of a number mutually agreed upon between employers and operatives.

All builders engaged on public work, either national or local, or engaged in building houses in respect of which subsidies are given, should be required as a condition of their contract or the receipt of the subsidy to train a specified proportion of apprentices.

A central committee of employers and operatives should be set up, and be charged with the definite duties of arranging for the recruitment of apprentices and the provision of adequate facilities for their training.

A system of insurance on a contributory basis or otherwise should be set up, and should provide that time lost in inclement weather should be paid for, if not in full, at least in part.

Various improvements should be made in the status of the craftsman and in the conditions of employment, with the definite object of making the industry more attractive.

We feel that parents as a rule are mistaken in the assumption that the building industry does not offer a good standard wage. Bricklayers and other craftsmen, we venture to think, are earning more than the average City clerks of to-day.

New County School for Girls, Ealing.

For the erection of a new County School for Girls for the Education Committee of the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., county architect, the following tenders were received:—E. Plaistowe & Sons, Ltd., Southall, £24,628; H. Knight & Son, Tottenham, N., £23,608; Wm. Daley & Co., Acton, W.4, £23,300; W. Lawrence & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury Square, E.C.2, £23,126; Miskin & Sons, Ltd., St. Albans, £23,000; W. S. Try, Cowley, Middlesex, £22,780; W. J. Dickens, Ealing, W., £22,750; W. Lacey, Hounslow, £22,297; Woollard & Sons, Ltd., Acton, W.3, £22,098; Ferris Bros., Acton, W., £22,082; G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, W.10, £21,940; G. Bollom, Acton, W.3, £21,877; C. J. Newby & Bros., Southgate, N.14, £21,836; F. D. Hidden & Co., Ltd., Brentford, Middlesex, £21,744; G. Challis, Brentford, Middlesex, £21,610; A. Monk, Lower Edmonton, N., £20,930 (recommended for acceptance).

Art in Charitable Institutions.

The Ceppo Hospital at Pistoia and its Della Robbia Frieze.

By Prof. ALFREDO MELANI.



THE FRIEZE ON THE CEPPO HOSPITAL AT PISTOIA.

SCOPE OF THE ARTICLE.

"Art in everything." This vigorous expression, indicating a profound love of beauty, was revived, not created, by John Ruskin and his followers, and all who have participated in the modern renaissance of art—art inspired by sensitiveness and a perception of present-day needs, in the belief that everything which is useful to man should have beautiful lines and colours. It must not be forgotten that benefactors long ago endowed cities with hospitals, many of high artistic merit, which proves that we moderns were successfully forestalled by our predecessors, who introduced art even into the abodes of suffering. To confine ourselves to Tuscany, there is the Ceppo Hospital at Pistoia, the Ospedale degli Innocenti, S. Maria Nuova, the old Convalescent Hospital near the portico of S. Paolo in Florence, the Ospedale della Scala at Siena.

But let us rather confine ourselves exclusively to the Ospedale del Ceppo, with its unrivalled Della Robbia decoration—the "Hospital Frieze" of which the city of Cino Sinibuldi is justly proud.

The Ospedale del Ceppo is situated in the low part of Pistoia, between the central and non-central districts, the wealthy and non-wealthy—I mean poor—quarters, though these should no longer exist to-day. It is between the Piazza del Duomo and the centre of the town, in the vicinity of the Porta S. Marco and the church of S. Bartolomeo, which boasts the oldest pulpit in this city of artistic pulpits, by Guido da Como (1250). The most famous one, however, is by the great Giovanni Pisano in S. Andrea. This latter pulpit has of recent years been the cause of dispute and protest. It was formerly surrounded by a tall railing—viz., the pulpit was encaged at its base, formed of columns with lions. This railing was removed and replaced by a low one, 30 or 40 cms. high: thus did Rome the omnipotent fall into the hands of the timid inventors of the low railing, a work that satirises those who designed and those who approved it. When I tell you that these lion figures in all the Lombardy churches were then similarly encaged, you can imagine to what danger ancient marbles out of doors, in streets and squares, are exposed.

Nevertheless, some thoughtful men were "encaged" and approved the half-hearted measures adopted by Rome, thus opposing those of us who wished to see railings abolished altogether:—

"Come le pecorelle escon dal chiuso
Ad una, a due, a tre e l'altre stanno
Timidette atterrando l'occhio e 'l muso."

SITE AND COMPARISONS.

As I have said, the Ospedale del Ceppo is situated in the low part of the city, and the façade, with its Corinthian portico, large and airy, raised by a few steps from the

ground, is simple and serene as an ancient strophe: one low storey, with a deep frieze that was originally the parapet of a columned loggia (a common feature in quattrocento and cinquecento Tuscany), forms the salient part of the façade. The fabric extends back and its partly undecorated sides are prolonged, running almost the entire length of a street.

Pistoia formerly possessed various loggias, besides the one over the portico and Hospital Frieze, which has been walled in. A fine example still remains near S. Bartolomeo on the Palazzo Rospigliosi; though of later date, it is equally representative.

The Hospital belongs, it is evident, to the first quarter of the sixteenth century, for though a charitable institution has existed here since the thirteenth, the building as we see it to-day does not date back farther than to the time when Leone X entrusted the management of the Hospital to Fra' Leonardo Bonafede, the monk who was in charge of the S. Maria Nuova Hospital in Florence, to which the Ospedale del Ceppo bears no artistic resemblance whatever, but is more similar in appearance to the Ospedale degli Innocenti, the celebrated structure of Brunellesco, built nearly a century earlier.

Artistically, the distance between the Pistoia Hospital and the Ospedale degli Innocenti is not great, although the latter is in every way superior to the Ospedale del Ceppo, even in its Della Robbia decoration, which is sober, refined, peaceful as an elegy, tender as an infant's smile.

The blue medallions with swaddled babies on the façade of the Ospedale degli Innocenti in Florence are incomparable and are one of the masterpieces of Andrea della Robbia, the poet of the family, and the most charming of all the modellers in glazed terra-cotta. Their lines and colours not only were, but still are, the delight of cities and small towns: Florence and Fiesole (S. Ansano), Pistoia and Cavinana, Arezzo and Foiano, Pisa and l'Impruneta, Siena and Montepulciano, Cerreto Guidi and Prato, Lucca and Empoli, Barga and Borgo Sansepolcro, S. Giovanni in Sugana and Montughi, S. Piero a Pieve and la Verna, not to mention Assisi, Gradara near Pesaro, Potenza Picena near Macerata, Montecassiano, Ripatransone, Arcevia—i.e., Umbria and the Marche, places receptive to all that is most beautiful, lofty and noble, and to which Della Robbia decoration has penetrated. It is in Tuscany, though, that the family is immortalised.

As I have stated, the architecture of the Ceppo Hospital is less fine; its façade does not equal that of the Ospedale degli Innocenti and, even if the first storey were opened and the loggia restored, the Pistoia façade could not compete with the one in Florence.

A voice was heard a few years ago advocating a "return to the antique," and a scheme was set on foot with this



THE FRIEZE ON THE CEPPO HOSPITAL AT PISTOIA, SHOWING ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE THE DECAPITATED FIGURE REFERRED TO ON PAGE 166.

intent, but it is a project to which I am opposed. The façade would not thereby be improved, for the upper part of the wall, devoid of windows, has at present a uniformity from which the voids of the loggia would detract, as they would likewise from the Della Robbia frieze—the best piece of architectural decoration the Pistoia Hospital possesses.

Although the sixteenth century designer certainly intended the appearance of the façade to be different, modern criticism, in its endeavour to be logical and enlightened, condemns the original designer and approves the unintentional rectifier of later date.

The colour of the shutters is the one thing open to criticism; their typical Tuscan green could with advantage be replaced by a neutral shade, more in keeping with the whole and which would not disturb the monochromatic harmony of the wall that serves as a frame for the frieze—in spite of the other splashes of colour on the façade, which are beautiful and gay rather than appropriate, as we shall see. Thus, if the loggia were restored, the façade would resemble a bird-cage. Just as a figure needs a background to produce the best effect, so loggias require a plain wall surface from which to stand out; only then do the voids show to full advantage. The skill of an architect is seen by the way in which voids and solids are balanced, and the best artistic effect cannot be obtained by an excess of either. For instance, the Palazzo Rospigliosi in Florence would reach a much higher level of beauty if the loggia at the side were continued along the façade.

I do not wish to disparage by my criticism the anonymous architect of the Hospital—a follower of Brunellesco. The imposing, airy portico, strongly supported by two plain pilasters, lightly moulded, is a model of its kind. It has one delightful feature—an æsthetic refinement, as Mr. Goodyear would put it: the upper storey is not perpendicular to the portico, but stands slightly back, making the fabric lighter and emphasising the Della Robbia frieze, with its reliefs that show up well between the horizontal mouldings of the portico. This refinement, enhanced by the lightening effect of the pilasters running from the top of the frieze to the roof, may best be seen at the angles, where the greatest projection of the chimæras does not extend beyond the furthest line of moulding.

THE DELLA ROBBIAS FRIEZE.

The Della Robbia frieze of glazed terra-cotta forms, with the silver altar of S. Jacopo and the pulpit of S. Andrea, the glory of Pistoia. It defines and extends the use of the art called after the Della Robbia, a family of Tuscan artists whose greatest fame rests on their glazed terra-cottas, although we must not overlook the merits as a sculptor of Luca, the head of the family, of Andrea, the sweet singer, or of that active master Giovanni, surpassed in elegance by Luca, who, like Leonardo and Michelangelo, was unmarried, but who nevertheless lacks the passionate accents of his nephew Andrea—the father

of Giovanni, author of the Pistoia frieze and the most able of Andrea's five sons, who were all modellers, some of them in France, where they spread the use of Della Robbia ware under François II and Henri II, and were known as "Messieurs de la Rubie," forming part of the luxuriant genealogical tree of the family, which is still growing and whose branches even penetrated into Spain.

As is well known, glazed polychrome terra-cotta was derived from the plain coloured variety which, having no enamel in it, did not take polychrome; and not only the ancient Egyptians, Chaldeans-Assyrians, Greeks and Romans, but likewise the moderns (with the exception of our contemporaries and the Neo-Classic artists who preceded them in their distaste for colour), all tinted and gilded their pottery, marbles and bronzes. We learn from the history of the Della Robbia family that the special treatment of terra-cotta started with Andrea and was improved on by Giovanni. Luca worked in glazed terra-cotta, marble and bronze, like his great contemporaries, who did not use enamel.

In the matter of Della Robbia decoration, no monument is richer than the Ospedale del Ceppo. The Ospedale degli Innocenti has the medallions of Andrea, but they



MEDALLION DECORATION ON THE CEPPO HOSPITAL AT PISTOIA.

are isolated—one here and one there—and are without any continuity; the porticos of S. Paolo and Orsanmichele in Florence are similarly treated. The wreaths and coats of arms on the latter, modelled and coloured by Luca, are magnificent, but they also are isolated, having almost the appearance of large cameos on the walls erected by Francesco Talenti (?) or Benci di Cione (?), although, of course, those walls also bear the dazzling decorations of Simone Talenti. No other example can be invoked, because the Della Robbia family, though they contributed to external decoration by their glazed terra-cotta, devoted most of their energy to the modelling of large or small high reliefs of virgins, saints, angels and cherubs for altar-pieces, tabernacles, lunettes, plaques or wreaths with coats of arms, baptismal fountains—not to mention the ceilings and pavements to which the National Museum in Florence has devoted a special room. Many will remember this apartment on the first floor, with its collection of material varying in size and subject. Its colour is lost, for it was never intended to be shut up in a museum, and the light of a room does not do it justice.

On the other hand, the Della Robbia frieze of Pistoia, designed for a façade in the full light of a square, and placed in position by Giovanni himself, has never been and will never be removed, nor will it ever be altered, disfigured or mutilated. Or rather, according to a local tradition, it *was* mutilated, and in the following manner: it was once thought, upon insufficient grounds, that Luca, to whom the Pistoia frieze has sometimes been attributed, had invented the glazed enamel that honours his name and that of his descendants; further, that never, by any artist anywhere, would the method of glazing terra-

cotta, born and buried with the Della Robbia family, be rediscovered. This mistaken belief was discredited long ago by the facts, but these had not been revealed when the mad idea was propounded at Pistoia that the "recipe" for the glaze was contained in one of the heads and decapitation was resolved upon. Indeed, if you look at "The Clothing of the Naked" on the left-hand side of the frieze, you will see that one figure lacks its head. The decapitation revealed nothing, of course, save the ingenuousness of the person who took it upon himself to perform the thankless task.

Some doubt arose as to the authorship of the frieze, and the name of Giovanni della Robbia was quite recently called in question. Proof can be easily obtained, however, from the Hospital books, which refer to Giovanni, son of Andrea della Robbia, and contain entries of payments made to him from 1525 to 1529. These entries thus serve the double purpose of clearing up the question of authorship and indicating the years during which Giovanni modelled and coloured the frieze.

These were years of maturity; Giovanni was over fifty (he was born in 1469) when he undertook this heavy task, possibly his last, unless the payment under the year 1529 was overdue. In any case the Annunciation plaque bears the date ANO. DNI. MDXXV, and 1525 is not far distant from 1529, the year of the master's death. As at Pistoia, so with the S. Maria Novella lavabo (1497) in Florence, which has recently been restored to Giovanni, thanks to the discovery of a document as unexceptionable as are the Hospital books at Pistoia. The lavabo, like the Hospital frieze, was formerly attributed to Luca.

We need feel no surprise at Giovanni's undertaking the great frieze for the Ospedale del Ceppo when he was already somewhat advanced in years if we bear in mind that he was a strong and energetic man, a very king among workers, as is shown by his immense activity as a modeller and maker of glazes, both for himself and for others. Giovanni was, in fact, the most industrious member of the family, though neither in conception nor in execution can he be said to attain excellence. The same thing happened to him that befell Perugino, or, if you want a sculptor, Antonello Gagini—they produced too much work with too little refinement. Defective construction, too many images and colours, a readiness to take motifs and ideas from others—these were the faults of Giovanni. As Lorenzo Ghiberti had done before him with great distinction, he introduced painter's subjects, trees, grottos and skies into his sculpture, making the work look like a carved picture.

In style, the master's hard, angular folds resemble Verrocchio's work; his touch is vigorous, his hand quick. Had Giovanni been a patient modeller, with a poetic feeling for line, he could hardly have come to the end of his arduous task.

With every detail revealed to us in the photograph, there can be no disputing the fact of Giovanni's authorship of the frieze, even without the Hospital books.

Considered in its general aspect and bearing in mind the inadequacy of Giovanni's helpers to the task before them, even if the Pistoia frieze is not so fine as one of Andrea's bas-reliefs or so perfectly carved as a terra-cotta by Luca, it is nevertheless boldly sculptured and highly decorative, as an architectural frieze should be, and fulfils its purpose most successfully. I consider that in certain scenes Giovanni has surpassed himself, as we shall see. The subject would appear to be more suitable for a painter than a sculptor—the works of Mercy in various scenes (seven—six of equal height along the façade), between figures representing Virtue, Prudence, Faith, Charity, Hope, Justice, and with two very bizarre chimæras at the angles. Plaques and wreaths containing scenes appear over each arch and half-circles at the angles. The plaque in the centre of the portico over the third bay (the portico consists of six bays) portrays the Annunciation, with the Glorification on one side and the Visitation on the other; next to them are coats of arms. This decoration, though harmonious in itself, seems rather too highly coloured against the stone and the wall.



FIGURE PANEL DECORATION ON THE CEPPO HOSPITAL AT PISTOIA.

I need only mention in passing the small dividing pilasters with slender candelabra, that are of secondary importance, for it is unnecessary to describe them here as minutely as if they were to be placed before our eyes.

Although, even when speaking of the Pistoia frieze, which is particularly happy, I should not compare Giovanni della Robbia with Luca and Andrea; he has nevertheless surpassed himself here. The scenes are constructed with great clearness and the work is wonderfully sensitive at times. *Visitare gli infermi*, *Visitare i carcerati* are the



FIGURE PANEL DECORATION AT THE CEPPO HOSPITAL, PISTOIA.

chief scenes, the most natural and moving. The *Infermi* might be the composition of one of the greatest artists—Fra' Bartolomeo or Andrea del Sarto. For this reason it is hard to believe that Giovanni della Robbia modelled the heavy, affected figure of Charity, for instance, or that he is the author of the Annunciation, a low relief dumped down by a sculptor who turned them out by the dozen, or by Giovanni in one of his bad moments.

To return to the *Infermi*, however, it must be acknowledged that in the whole of his artistic life Giovanni never created a more beautiful or touching scene. The atmosphere of pure, human simplicity, softened by sentiment, is its great merit, which raises it to the level of a masterpiece. The scene, which differs considerably in its artistic aspect from the one reproduced here—*Vestire gli Ignudi*—contains an austere figure with a life-like expressive head, the Blessed Bishop Andrea Franchi, a celebrated prelate of Pistoia. This ranks with the best images of the frieze,

which are repeated, like the Charity *putto* and the *Ignudi* cherub. And you would assign the large figure of the sick man resigned in his suffering, and whose pulse the doctor is feeling, in the scene of the *Infermi*, to Donatello or Mantegna.

The work suffers here and there from carelessness, although Giovanni, who was obliged to have helpers—not so many, certainly, as Vasari at the Palazzo Vecchio, nor such worthy ones—always endeavoured to secure competent assistance.

In judging the sculptor, I have been compelled to make a few reservations, but I can praise the colourist without stint. Elsewhere (in the large tabernacle of the Fonticine, 1522) the richness of Giovanni della Robbia's palette was excessive; but in the Pistoia frieze his colouring is sober and happy. Had he perhaps some wise counsellor?

He was a colourist and was called by that name alone, like certain Greek painters who were commissioned to colour statues, and it was his custom to pile on colour. He was a tormentor, was Giovanni, very different from his father, Andrea, whose purity and grace were as far removed from vulgarity as Giovanni was near it at times.

He did not enamel the heads; of plain terra-cotta, they seem bronzed by the sun, warm like other parts of the bodies, arms, legs, hands, which are also bare—an unusual thing with Della Robbia work of this kind, as is proved by other terra-cottas at Pistoia: in the Cathedral, by Andrea's lunette, his "Visitation" in S. Giovanni Forcivitas, and by the "Coronation," a lunette in the Ospedale del Ceppo, which has now been restored to Benedetto Buglioni, of whom I shall have occasion to speak later. Thus, the heads and limbs are left uncovered, this naturalistic tendency being frequently met in the Pistoia frieze, whilst the garments are varied, contrasted and pleasingly arranged.

Let us look more closely: the central figures stand out from an intensely blue background, the figures to right and left are thrown up against white, the figures in the last scene on the left against blue, and probably the last scene on the right would likewise have shown a blue ground had it been the work of Giovanni della Robbia; but it was executed some sixty years later, in 1585, by Filippo Paladini, a native of Pistoia (?), and is a commendable work, without enamel, which has also been attributed to Santi Buglioni, said to be the son of Benedetto, but who was only his pupil. This scene, therefore, without disturbing the colour symphony of the frieze, forms no part thereof, and cannot be considered with the rest in terms of polychromy.

Thus, the effect is one of alternating backgrounds, blue and white, with the white note not infrequently accentuated in the garments.

The colour scheme of the *Visitare gli Infermi* is of as high an order as its composition and naturalness, while the monotonous *Alloggiare i pellegrini* is the least pleasing.

"CORONATION" LUNETTE.

Flanking the Della Robbia frieze and to the left of it, in a wing behind the façade, on an exact line with the portico, there is a door with a semicircular pediment. Built at the same time as the portico, it has a high relief—the Coronation of the Virgin—with two figures and a joyous flight of cherubim in a half-circle, similar to many of Andrea della Robbia's terra-cottas. In composition it recalls the external lunette in the Church of Ognissanti in Florence, the subject being the same, elaborated in the latter case by the addition of figures of angels and saints, playing and singing. It would also be possible to compare the lunette with a similar subject by Fra' Angelico in the Convent of S. Marco and with some of Filippo Lippi's lines in the Cathedral of Spoleto, but to make too many such comparisons is futile. After all, it is only natural that the same theme should inspire similar ideas in men whose minds were alike.

There is a lofty spirituality about this carving, with its milky enamel and delicate figures, especially the Virgin with her humbly-bent head:—

"Umile ed al ra più che creatura,
Termine fisso d'eterno consiglio."

We should instinctively assign the authorship to Andrea

della Robbia, of whose work Pistoia has an outstanding example in the very charming "Visitation" in S. Giovanni Fuorcivitas. "Not so," is the answer furnished by a document discovered a few years ago, giving particulars of a payment made to Benedetto Buglioni for the sculpture at the Hospital, which is of a higher order than the lunette over the door of the Badia in Florence—one of the few authentic works, if not the only one, of Buglioni, a follower in the wake of Andrea, and a clever imitator of that master, whose co-operation in the Pistoia lunette may, after all, be partly direct and not merely indirect.

INTERIOR, APPENDAGE OF THE HOSPITAL AND FRESCOS.

Within, the Ospedale del Ceppo possesses nothing of equal interest to the façade. There used to be a fifteenth century Virgin with Child Jesus and St. John, but I rather think this has been placed in the Art Gallery of the Communal Palace, and years ago, I saw some wooden stalls in the Pistoia Hospital, which, however, on a recent visit no longer aroused my interest. I learned, though, that this Hospital, with its numberless passages, is no longer in use. It is not in accordance with modern scientific requirements, and I was told that, like the vast S. Maria Nuova Hospital in Florence, it is unhygienic and lacks all things that are regarded as essential nowadays.

In connection with the Ospedale del Ceppo, a few words may be spared for the quattrocento Church of S. Maria delle Grazie or del Letto, which has been an appendage of the Hospital since the suppression of the Augustinian monastery in 1784. The simple, sober façade of stone, coming to a single point, light entrance door and domed interior, were all assigned until recently to Ventura Vitoni, an excellent architect and a native of Pistoia. In 1920, however, the church was restored to its true designer, Michelozzo Michelozzi. A fortunate discovery this, which adds to our knowledge of the history of S. Maria delle Grazie and to the prestige of Pistoia, whose artistic crown is thus enriched by the inclusion of an illustrious fifteenth century master, Michelozzo, the dearly-loved pupil of Filippo Brunellesco.

The artistic interior of another Tuscan hospital, that of Siena, l'Ospedale della Scala, was decorated with frescoes by Domenico di Bartolo, and may be mentioned here in conclusion by reason of the stylistic importance of these Siennese frescoes. When the mysticism characteristic of the Siennese school showed signs of exhaustion it was gradually transformed into naturalism, the success of the latter in Florence being due to Masaccio, Andrea del Castagno and Paolo Uccello.

As we set out, however, with the intention of speaking exclusively of the Ospedale del Ceppo, and consider that we have accomplished our task, whether well or ill, it only remains for us to bid the reader *vale*.

ALFREDO MELANI.

R.I.B.A.

The Royal Institute of British Architects have issued a special letter to the Prime Minister, and have sent us a copy, which we have much pleasure in printing:—

To the Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., P.C.,
Prime Minister.

St. Paul's Bridge.

SIR,—The undersigned are members of a Conference specially appointed by the Councils of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Town Planning Institute, the London Society, and the Architecture Club. They represent the concern felt by these four Societies on the subject of the proposed scheme for a bridge across the Thames opposite St. Paul's Cathedral. It is in view of the special urgency of the case (in connection with the possible allocation of public money) and of its enormous importance, that they ask the permission to appear before you by deputation, or if this is impossible, that a hearing should be allowed before the Ministry of Transport. The nature of the case which the deputation, if sanctioned, will present is respectfully laid before you in the attached statement.

The design of the bridge would no doubt, before execution, necessarily come before the newly appointed Commission of Fine Arts. We venture to suggest that a matter so vitally

affecting the public's interest in the æsthetics and amenities of London should come before that Commission at the present stage, so that its views may be considered in conjunction with the practical and economical aspects before any commitment is made.—We are, Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

CARMICHAEL THOMAS, WILLIAM DAVISON and DAVID
BARCLAY NIVEN, on behalf of the London Society.
S. D. ADSHEAD, W. R. DAVIDGE, R. A. S. PAGET, W. REES
JEFFREYS, on behalf of the Town Planning Institute.
RALPH KNOTT, E. VINCENT HARRIS, R. M. BARRINGTON-
WARD, JAMES BONE, on behalf of the Architecture Club.
HARRY BARNES, BANISTER FLETCHER, PAUL WATERHOUSE,
H. V. LANCHESTER, on behalf of the Royal Institute of
British Architects.

Statement by Conference on St. Paul's Bridge.

The members of a Conference specially nominated by the Councils of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Town Planning Institute, The London Society and the Architecture Club, have at a Session held on Friday, February 22nd, 1924, issued by unanimous resolution the following statement of their opinion:—

It appears to us, as representing Societies all of whom are concerned in a greater or less degree with the attempt to consider practically, æsthetically and economically the problem of London's need and development, that the expenditure of public or other funds on the scheme for a St. Paul's Bridge which is, we believe, now before the Court of Common Council, the L.C.C. and possibly the Ministry of Transport, should be vetoed or deferred. We protest against it chiefly because it seems to us to be conceived without sufficient breadth of outlook. To many of us it is a matter of conviction that no large and important road and bridge schemes within the Metropolitan area should in these days be taken in hand without the previous preparation of a complete and comprehensive plan for the re-arrangement of London's traffic ways. London's great size, far from being an excuse for piecemeal changes, actually renders them, in our opinion, inexcusable. Apart from this consideration we feel that the scheme lacks forethought and ignores certain existing conditions.

Its road connections on the Surrey side appear to unite it with a point which already has direct and easy access to the little-used Southwark Bridge, which is within 300 yards. In this respect it would seem that its utility is unimportant. In any case it is not, as far as the public knows, linked up with any thought-out scheme for the town planning of the Surrey area.

On the Middlesex side, its utility again is questionable, while its disadvantages are obvious.

The choice of the East End of St. Paul's Churchyard as a space for the encouragement of additional traffic appears to us singularly unfortunate, and it appears likely that the arches carrying the approaches between viaduct and viaduct may produce an embarrassment of street planning and of hygienic arrangement in a crowded area which is not yet fully considered.

Quite apart from questions relating to the stability of the Cathedral—questions which we believe are sufficiently grave—it is clear that the introduction of a North and South highway at this part of the city must lead to a serious obstruction of the existing East and West streams of traffic, both that in Cheapside and that in Cannon Street.

If there is, as it seems to us, any chance of the proposed Bridge and its contributory roads, becoming a definite impediment rather than an improvement to existing traffic conditions, it is clear that funds spent on it will be funds spent amiss.

It is, therefore, on the general ground that we believe the scheme to be based on an inadequate study of present difficulties and an incomplete survey of remedial possibilities that we most conscientiously urge its abandonment or postponement.

If, as is possible, the project is being hastened forward as a means of finding work and wages for some sections of the unemployed, we would respectfully point out that two Bridges at Richmond and Mortlake, already approved in connection with the approach roads in the western river-side suburbs, are immediately ripe for construction. These form part of a considered system of general road improvement.

We press these points with a sense that the views we put forward and the anxiety of which they are the outcome are sympathised with not merely by the Societies which appointed us, but by a large section of the thinking public who would with us deplore the calamity of large public expenditure on a work which may easily prove to be a costly blunder likely to add to rather than diminish the difficulties of the traffic problem.

Dutch Tiles at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

By Cyril G. E. Bunt.



Fig. 1. HUNTING SCENE, PAINTED IN BLUE. 102 Tiles. C. BOUMEESTER, Rotterdam. C.A. 1700 A.D.



Fig. 2. ALLEGORICAL PANEL. Illustrating Love, Justice, Unity, Fidelity and Steadfastness. 357 Tiles, painted in manganese-purple.

There is no institution in the world that, from the viewpoint of usefulness to the student of applied art, can compare with the Victoria and Albert Museum. And yet, comprehensive and valuable as its collections are, there exist inevitably certain gaps which can only be reduced by seizing favourable opportunities as they occur.

Until now the department of Ceramics has been somewhat poor in examples of Dutch tiles. But by the generosity of Mr. Henry Van den Bergh this department has now been enriched with a collection fully representative of the industry throughout the period of its florescence.

This gift, of the greatest interest to all decorative artists, is virtually a selection of the best examples of the celebrated Vis collection of Amsterdam. Known to connoisseurs through two exhibitions, since the war, at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, it is matter for congratulation that the best of them should find a permanent home in England. Too many good things go across the water nowadays.

Quite apart from their evident aesthetic value, they have an historic and technical interest that will well repay notice. As arranged in the room devoted to their display, it is possible to read the story of the development of the maiolica tile without a missing link.

Among the earliest examples shown, dating from the second half of the sixteenth century, one finds technically primitive types—repeating, geometric patterns, reserved in white on variously coloured grounds, with arabesque ornamentation.

Some of these early and comparatively rare examples show signs of wear consistent with their having been used for floors. This is a point of historic interest in view of the fact that the Dutch obtained the art in the first place from Italy, where tiles were frequently employed as flooring but not as wall decoration. The simple, refined colour schemes employed at this period, and also the renaissance arabesques, equally point to a paramount Italian influence.

From these we may pass to examples this side of 1600, when a more naturalistic treatment is observed. Among flowers we find the tulip and carnation, among the fruit pomegranates, grapes and oranges, as persistent elements worked into repeats of great artistic value. The seventeenth century marks the high-water mark of the tide of colourings; rich blends of blue, yellow, orange, green and purple, with a fine white, give a brilliance to the tiles of this period which has never been excelled.

One observes in some cases the unit of design is complete on each tile. But usually the unite group of four tiles would seem to be most favoured. In such the vital element of the repeat is the corner filling which, of course, links tile with tile and provides a ground repeat of subdued richness from which the reserved panel of the tile stands forth.

Besides formal designs of fruit and flowers, one finds animals and human figures in reserved frames as well as animals, birds and flowers without frame, but with the unit link of small corner ornaments.

We find the blue on white technique developing, in the late seventeenth century, into a style which is chiefly remarkable for charming little bits of Dutch landscape, ships and other marine subjects and a prolific illustration of scriptural subjects.

Charming as such examples are individually, they are not over-successful as artistic wall covering. Having no corner device, they lack a sense of cohesion—so vital is that, often tiny, quarter design at the angles.

The Dutch obtained the art of the tile from Italy, and it would appear that very early they began to apply it to the decoration of their walls. To what a pitch of excellence they carried this beautiful decorative device is well seen in the present collection, for here we have no less than nine really wonderful examples of picture panels—a collection that could nowhere else be paralleled.



Fig. 3. HOUSE SIGN OF THE THREE FLOWER POTS. First quarter of the 17th century.
26 Tiles, painted in blue, yellow, brown and purple.

Fig. 3 illustrates the earliest—a house-sign from the gable of a house in Gorinchem. In a fine renaissance border are seen the “Three Flower Pots,” which give the name to the house. The colour scheme is blue, green, orange and violet and is most pleasing. It dates from the first quarter of the seventeenth century.

The earliest dated panel and the next in order of date is the *tour de force* on three hundred and fifty-seven tiles in a beautiful manganese-purple (Fig. 2). Five allegorical figures—Love, Justice, Unity, Fidelity and Steadfastness—are depicted in a style reminiscent of the Dutch school of painters, withal pleasingly grouped. There is a certain break in the design due to it being copied from three lights of a stained-glass window in the cathedral of Gouda, designed by Joachim Utewael in 1599. The panel is dated 1640.

In panels of this nature one must believe that the picture was painted on the tiles set out as required, though in the earlier repeat units each tile was handled singly, so that the joining is not exact.

Another dated panel is the hunting scene (Fig. 1). This is signed “C. Boumeester,” and was made at Rotterdam, where Boumeester distinguished himself as a painter of very effective marine panels.

Of purely decorative appeal two great floral groups are shown in the collection. The earlier consists of thirty-six tiles painted in blue and manganese purple. A strong Oriental feeling pervades this design of the seventeenth century. More refined and far more brilliant is the large vase of flowers dating from *circa* 1700. Its bright colouring, its wonderful balance of design and tone gradation make it perhaps the most perfect example of this particular type extant. It is considered to be of Delft manufacture.

By the middle of the eighteenth century the technique and artistry of tile making was on the decline. One name, however, stands out as a mark of excellence, that of I. Aalms of Rotterdam. His work is characterised by a personal touch that renders it worthy to take its place at the close of this brief survey. A Crucifixion in blue with strikingly delineated figures is worth notice. But perhaps his best is seen in a fine panel painted in violet depicting Abraham dismissing Hagar and Ishmael. It is copied from a painting by Zocchi and dates from the second half of the eighteenth century.

“The Architect” Fifty Years Ago.

MARCH 7, 1874.

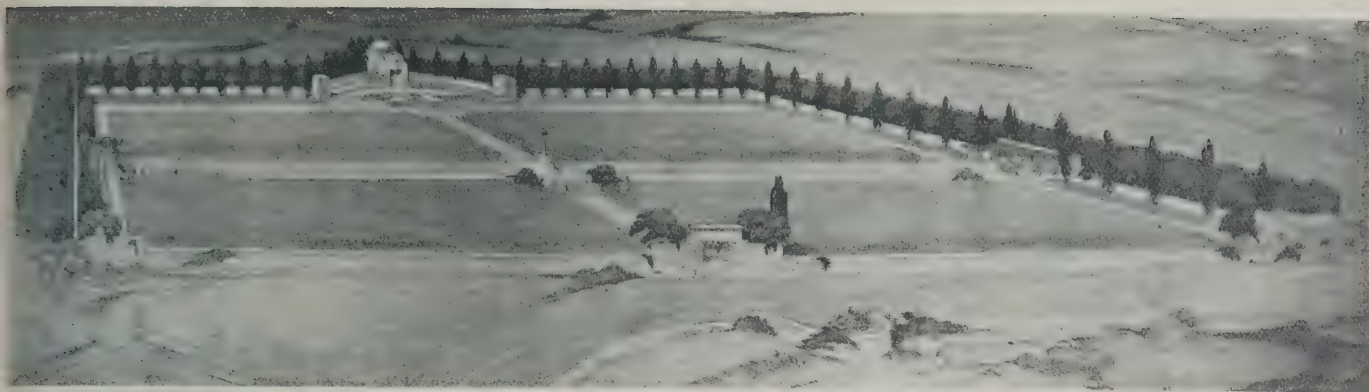
“Houses,” said Lord Bacon, “are built to live in, and not to look on; therefore let use be preferred before uniformity, except where both may be had.” Mr. Ayrton might quote this in answer to Mr. Edward Barry, who has recently suggested the removal of the glass excrescence upon the Clock Tower at the Houses of Parliament, while Mr. Barry could with equal reason apply the quotation to strengthen his own suggestion. Perhaps the most damaging argument against modern architecture is that nothing useful can be added to it without spoiling it, while Mr. Barry will probably reply that had he been consulted he could have made the excrescence beautiful, yet not, we presume to think, without changing if not destroying the graceful taper of the roof of which he owns himself to be jealous. There remains the question whether the illumination of the Clock Tower while Parliament is sitting be not a sentimental fad with which London can dispense. Strange that a poetry-forsaken and falsely practical Chief Commissioner should have proposed it! A flag, it may be urged, indicates the presence of Royalty at home, and why should not a light mark the copious flow of midnight oil in the legislative labours of St. Stephen’s? The truth is that all people who have any interest in the State can read, and the numerous daily journals suffice to record Parliament at work. If it were necessary to apprise the representatives of the country of wrongs requiring redress, the existence of a light might perhaps aid the victims to find the national champions, but they would not be allowed to ask for justice at headquarters. Policeman X would certainly be there to prevent them, and “The Times,” whose whereabouts requires neither tower nor beacon, is a surer refuge to seek than Palace Yard. The “goodly fabric” which crowns the Clock Tower has been built “for beauty only,” like “the enchanted palaces of the poets.” Pity to disfigure it with a glass case, which, though necessary to the light it contains, is rendered doubly ugly from the fact that the light itself is of little or no use.

The plans for 67 houses were approved by the Sunderland Corporation Health Committee. We recently published a number of plans and elevations of houses by Messrs. W. & T. R. Milburn & Sons, architects, Sunderland.

The General Works Committee of Accrington passed the plans for 13 houses on the Laneside estate.

The Richmond (Yorks) Corporation have passed the plans for ten houses on the west side of Queen’s Road and 22 on the Garden Suburbs Estate.

The Harton Miners’ Lodge, South Shields, have prepared an extensive building scheme, the chief feature of which is the erection of 150 dwellings. The estimated outlay in this connection is placed at between fifty and sixty thousand pounds.



JERUSALEM WAR CEMETERY. SIR JOHN T. BURNET, A.R.A., & PARTNERS, Architects.

Architectural Draughtsmanship.

In our issue of February 22 we referred to the recent exhibition on Architectural Draughtsmanship of the last hundred years held at the Architectural Association. We illustrate this week some of the drawings shown, and some drawings which, in our opinion, would have made the exhibition more representative. But in spite of our disappointment we have to thank the promoters for arousing in ourselves the desire to probe deeper into this subject. With this aim in view we spent a day at one of our central libraries looking through copies of our architectural publications for the past fifty years. We saw reproductions of drawings made by Mr. W. R. Lethaby for Mr. Norman Shaw, and whilst we were obliged to admire the care and attention paid to the correct rendering of detail we were forced to admit that all the drawings were rather mechanical in appearance—pictures or representations of houses without souls. In those days the architectural draughtsmen left little or nothing to the imagination. It

was owing to this uninteresting method of rendering architectural drawings that the public interest grew very small indeed. A comparison between the style in fashion in the 'eighties and 'nineties of last century and the present day is utterly impossible, quite apart from the architectural point of view. The Royal Academy architectural room will always be the premier show from the professional point of view, and since the architect submits beautiful water-colour renderings of his work he has gradually been attracting in ever-increasing numbers the visitors of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts. We would here remind our readers that the Secretary of the R.A. will be pleased to send forms and labels to all applicants who enclose a stamped addressed envelope, and, further, that for the architectural room exhibits the sending in date is March 28th until ten o'clock at night, not midnight, as was the practice some years before the war.

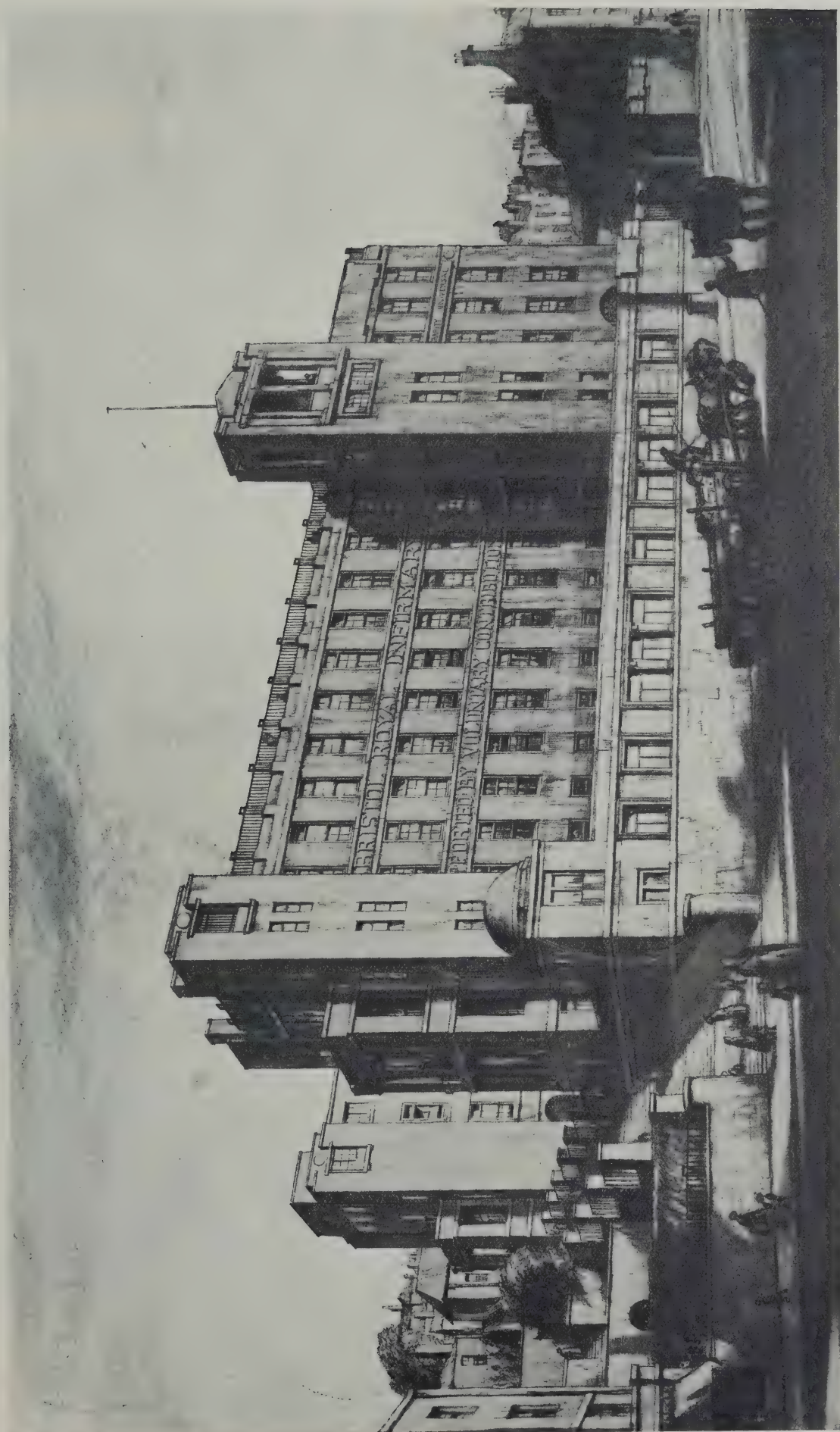


RHODES MEMORIAL, TABLE MOUNTAIN, CAPE TOWN. HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect.



Drawing exhibited at the recent exhibition held at the Architectural Association on the subject of Architectural Draughtsmanship of the last hundred years.

BLOCK OF OFFICES. ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.



BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY. H. PERCY ADAMS & CHARLES H. HOLDEN, Architects. Drawing by MUIRHEAD BONE.

Correspondence.

Rapid Progress at Wembley.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—With reference to your article on the above subject in last week's issue, your contributor must have had a bitter experience before writing such an optimistic communication, for, personally, when visiting professionally that interesting part of the outer Metropolis the great fact which struck me was the slough of despond I waded through from Wembley Park Station. Mud, mud—and sticky mud at that!

The Exhibition is now approaching the point of being interesting and one is able to get some vague impression of its vastness. The group of young Olympians can now be seen by the naked eye, provided the unkind wind, with the ever present particles of cement, can be avoided.

I presume an American, on viewing it, would be overheard as stating: "Yes, this is some Exhibition!"

Vast will best describe it, and from what I saw I think the "Old Country" will have reason to be proud of its great undertaking.—Yours faithfully,

S. E.

Croydon.

March 3, 1924.

The Architect "Leader."

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I have been a regular reader of your journal for the past eight to ten years. Firstly, may I congratulate you on the fact that your journal speaks out plainly. Secondly, I did not agree with your policy over last year's R.I.B.A. election, believing as I do that a journal like yours should not take sides, but should stand for the profession as a whole. On the other hand, I have very great sympathy with Mr. A. W. S. Cross, believing as I do that after a man has so faithfully and continuously served his Institute that he ought to have received at its hands the highest honour it could pay for such unstinted services. The reason for writing this letter, however, is that I may appeal to my brother architects to bury the hatchet. Let us have a united profession and at the earliest possible moment a linking up of the two corporate bodies devoted to our interests. By this means, and this means only, can, I submit, the true advancement of our position as professional men be secured. I appeal to "The Architect" to use its power and influence to secure such a desired effect; and I further appeal to the two parties within the Institute to get together and settle their differences.

If the best and easiest way out should be a referendum, then, in the name of common sense, why not an Institute Referendum and the losing side to loyally abide by the decision?—Yours truly,

THIRTY YEARS IN THE PROFESSION.

London.

March 4, 1924.

R.I.B.A. Defence League.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—At a recent Committee meeting attention was called to a letter signed by Mr. Maurice E. Webb in which he refers to Registration.

We beg to enclose a copy of the circular letter signed by us and dated January 31, 1924; you will see that the only reference in it to Registration is as follows:—

"Our Committee wonders what reason is to be given now for the admission of several hundred men without examination? Surely the promoters of this foolish scheme will not attempt again to throw dust in our eyes by saying, 'If you admit these men then you will get Registration,' or words to that effect, for our Parliamentary Agents have shown how ridiculous and misleading such an assumption may prove to be. If every architect in England belonged to the Institute, the great difficulty would still be before us, namely, how to make out what is known as a 'public case.' For example, a kindred Society of another great profession wanted Registration, but, ultimately, had to abandon the idea, not on account of any opposition from its members or from any rival society, but because the society in question could not make a 'public case.'"

Mr. Webb writes that our circular letter "indicates clearly that the policy of this League is now definitely anti-registrationist for reasons set out in the circular." This entirely misrepresents our views; but Mr. Webb gives us another opportunity to remind your readers that the R.I.B.A. Defence League has always been and is still in favour of Registration. In our letter of January 31 we gave the principal reason why we consider it

will be so hard to obtain, and we did so at greater length in our letter of January 1922, when we printed *in extenso* the opinion of the Parliamentary Agents of the R.I.B.A.

Whatever views your readers may have in favour of or against unification, or amalgamation with any society or societies, we feel convinced that a very large majority of the members of the R.I.B.A. are satiated with these constant attempts to undermine the status of the Institute. And the usual result of the initiation of such schemes is to stir up strife and resentment, and create bad feeling at the R.I.B.A.

The Defence League was founded to protect the interests of those who have entered the Institute in accordance with our charters and bye-laws and has no other object.—Yours obediently,

ALFRED W. S. CROSS,
Chairman.

SYDNEY PERKS,
Hon. Secretary.

45, New Bond Street, W.
March 3, 1924.

Change of Name.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—In order more correctly to describe the nature of our business, it has been decided as and from March 1 next to change the name of the Company from Thames Paper Company, Limited, to Thames Board Mills, Limited.

This change is one of Name only, and does not involve any alteration whatever in the constitution of the Company.—Very truly yours,

E. B. FISKE,
Managing Director.

Purfleet, Essex.

February 27, 1924.

The R.I.B.A. and Unification.

We have received letters from "A. B. C." and also from "A Doubtful Associate," but the rules relating to correspondence, which are that letters forwarded for publication must either be signed, or if signed by a *nom de plume* the name and address of sender must accompany the communication, not having been observed in the two letters in question we regret our inability to publish them. If the writers will send their names and addresses we shall be pleased to publish in our next week's issue.

New Book.

"Specification, 1924." Price 10s. 6d. net. The Architectural Press, London.

This volume contains some interesting articles by men of note and authority, amongst which "Hotels and Their Equipment," by Stanley Hamp, F.R.I.B.A., will make a special appeal to the architectural profession. Mr. Hamp has had a wide experience of this subject, and the illustrations which are incorporated with his article give an indication of the broad aspect he has taken in dealing with the same. "Half Timber Construction," by Edwin Gunn, A.R.I.B.A., is also a subject of considerable interest in view of Messrs. Liberty's new building in Argyle Street, Regent Street, London, being erected in this style; an illustration is included of these premises showing an elevation drawing of a gable. Many other illustrations, showing details of construction, are included in the article. Mr. A. Ewart Aston contributes an article on the subject of inexpensive timber roofs, illustrated with constructional drawings and diagrams. Other articles on the plumber, roofer, metal worker, ironmonger, pavior, etc., etc., go to complete a very well-arranged volume.

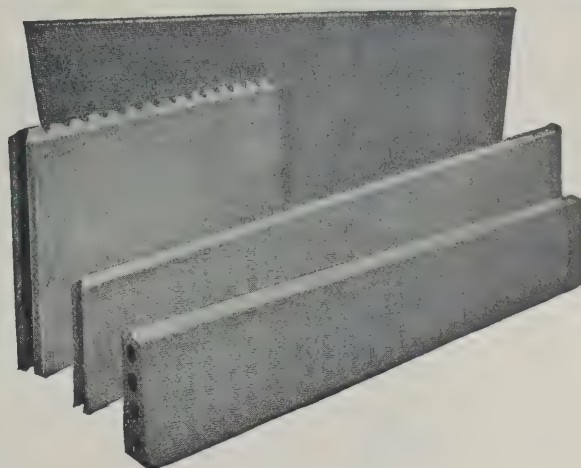
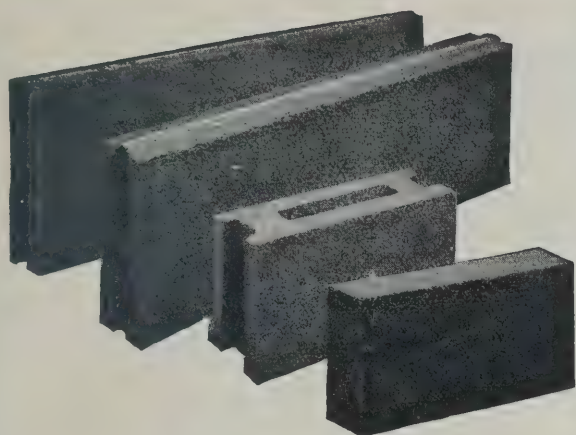
Plans for the new fire station at Leicester have been adopted. The cost of the new buildings is estimated at £36,284. This amount is to provide for administration offices and forty houses for officers and men on the Lancaster Road, away from the congested parts of the city. The fire station itself is to be of a commodious character. A local architectural competition was held in connection with these buildings, and was won by Mr. Trevor Sawday, architect.

New school premises are to be erected in Moat Road, Lansley, Worcestershire, at the cost of £24,000.

The Trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation have offered the University of Oxford a gift of £75,000 for the development of the Department of Biochemistry.

Several new buildings are to be erected at the Reaseheath Agricultural College, Nantwich. They include a woman's hostel, a dairy and farm buildings.

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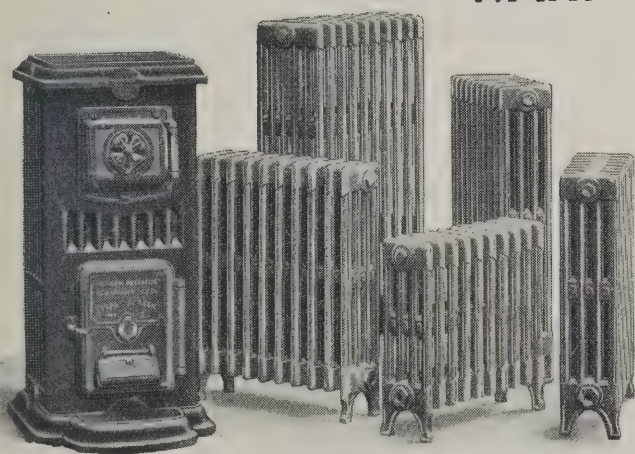
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Housing.



MOULSECOOMBE ESTATE: BRIGHTON CORPORATION HOUSING. W. T. OVERTON, Architect.

Midlands.

Permission to borrow £29,145 for the purpose of erecting 67 houses on the Beccles Road Housing Site has been made by the Lowestoft Town Council.

The Ministry of Health will shortly receive an application from the Lincoln City Council asking him to approve of a site on the Nettleham Road, and also of the plans of 130 houses which the Council propose to erect there.

The Ministry of Health has notified the Bridgenorth Town Council that permission is granted for the erection of 16 non-parlour and six parlour type houses.

The Urban District Council of Chapel-en-le-Frith intend to erect a further 200 houses in various parts of their district. We take it that the plans for these dwellings will be of a varied character to suit the needs of different families.

The Buxton Town Council are endeavouring to acquire a housing site at Burbage.

Twenty-four houses are to be built on the North Denes, and the same number on Southdown Common, by the Great Yarmouth Corporation.

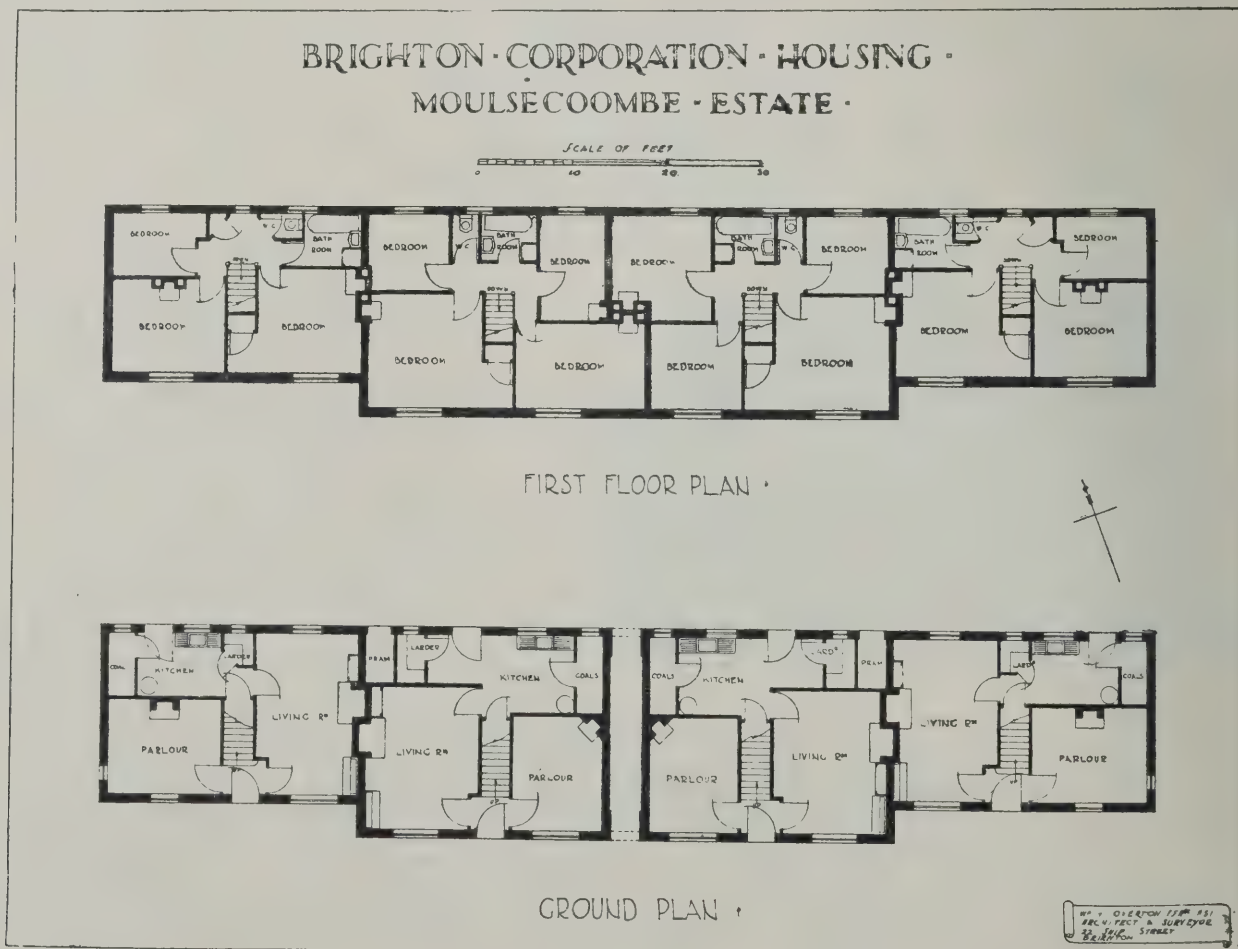
The Ministry of Health has granted the Urban District Council of Greetland permission to proceed with the building of the 28 houses.

The Urban District Council of Gainsborough have decided to erect 50 houses.

Forty new houses are to be erected on the School Lane Site, Dronfield. Negotiations for the loan of £18,000 are in hand by the Urban District Council.

Scotland.

The Dean of Guild Court, Edinburgh, passed the plans for a bungalow in Drumbræ Road, Corstorphine; a villa in Barnton Avenue, Davidson's Mains; a house in Haughton Road; a bungalow in Dovecote Road; and another bungalow in Drumbræ Road, Corstorphine.





BRITANNIC HOUSE, E.C.2 (Moorgate Front).
Architect:
Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

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REGISTERED OFFICES: 2 St. Andrew Square, EDINBURGH.

General News.

South and West of England.

A deputation from the B.C. met the Local Government and Museums Committee of the L.C.C. at the County Hall last week and put forward the local view in favour of converting Castlewood House, Shooters Hill, into a museum and art gallery. The proceedings were private, but it is understood that the deputation agreed to advise the Council to make a substantial contribution towards the cost of repairing the house for the purpose desired, and if necessary a further contribution for its maintenance. It was estimated that between £2,000 and £3,000 would be required for the necessary renovations.

The foundation stone of the new church at South Lancing is to be laid by the Bishop of Lewes about the middle of March.

The Ministry of Health has held an inquiry on the subject of provision of public baths on land adjoining the Borough Sanatorium in Frederick Road, Ore. The application was submitted by the Hastings Corporation.

An institute is to be erected at Orpington, Kent. The site selected adjoins the Baptist Church.

The Kent County Council has decided to borrow the sum of £9,000 for the erection of a new elementary school building at Queenborough.

Thirty thousand pounds are to be spent on the erection of a nurses' hostel at Barming, Kent.

Additions and alterations are to be carried out on the Battle Infirmary buildings.

We are informed that Mr. W. C. Easdale, civil engineer, of 1, Victoria Street, S.W., has been retained by the Governor and Company of the Bank of England as consulting engineer for the drainage and sanitary arrangements in connection with the rebuilding of the premises.

A new secondary school for girls is to be erected at Ilford at a cost of £45,000.

The General Purposes Committee recommends the St. Pancras Council to appoint a special committee to consider and report upon what sites are available in the borough for the erection of a new town hall. We hope that a central site will be found and that the largest borough of the City of London will be represented by a town hall worthy of its civic importance.

The Kent County Council propose to erect a new elementary school at Sheerness at a cost of £9,350.

We regret to record the death of Mr. George Lethbridge, F.R.I.B.A., of 205 Archway Road, Highgate, London, N., at the age of 76 years.

The death is announced of Mrs. Mary Craig Johnson, daughter of Mr. H. Greville Montgomery, J.P., A.R.I.B.A.

Major Herbert Freyburg, F.S.Arc., F.S.I., died on February 25, at his address, 8 Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1.

North of England.

The Rochdale authorities have passed the plans for a new Wesleyan mission hall in Drake Street. A scheme is also before the Town Council for the provision of a new fire station in Alfred Street.

An open-air school is to be built by the Newcastle-on-Tyne Education Committee on the Pendower estate.

Messrs. Edward Simpson and Son, architects, are the designers of the new Roman Catholic Church, dedicated to St. William. The foundation stone has been formally laid on the selected site for the church at Brownroyd, Bradford.

An annexe to Crow Wood mansion, Sowerby Bridge, has been acquired by the West Riding County Council for the purpose of converting the same into a maternity and child welfare centre.

The Padiham Burnley cricket field is to be used as a building site for a modern mill to accommodate 800 looms.

Trade Notes.

Boyle's latest patent "Air-Pump" ventilator has been applied to the Natural Baths, Buxton. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, Ventilating Engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Messrs. Royles, Ltd., of Irlam, near Manchester, specialise in heat transmission plant, have worked for some years a profit-sharing scheme for their staff and works employees, and they have, on the 28th of February, paid to their staff and employees a sum of money equal to 8 per cent. on the salaries and wages earned for the year 1923. In addition to this they paid wages for seven days' summer holidays to the works-people. This arrangement seems to have given very satisfactory results as regards an amicable understanding existing throughout the whole establishment.

New Catalogues.

Messrs. W. & G. Foyle, Ltd., Booksellers, of 121 to 125, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2, send us their new edition of their catalogue of scientific and technical books. It consists of over 40 pages giving particulars and prices, the last few pages consisting of lists of special offers.

We have received from the National Radiator Co., Ltd., of Hull and 439 and 441 Oxford Street, London, W.1, their latest catalogue, which gives in concise form particulars of their many styles of Ideal Boilers, Radiators, etc. This small work is clearly illustrated and prices are fully given. Particular attention is called to the Ideal Classic Radiators, which have long been held in favour for their gracefulness of appearance, compactness and efficiency. The latest improvement in the Ideal Cookanheat Stove is the falling fire door. We illustrate this useful little stove, which will capably do the cooking, heating and hot-water supply.



A number of pages are devoted to the Ideal Britannia Boilers, and particulars with illustration and descriptive diagrams showing measurements are very clearly given.



Nos. 0 and 1 can be supplied with the smoke outlet either at the front or the back. No. 0 can be furnished with a front plate which very greatly facilitates the building of the boiler into the end wall of a greenhouse. A very great advantage of these boilers is the broad, flat waterways, which offer no pockets for the accumulation of lime deposit, making them particularly suitable in districts where the water is somewhat hard. Further advantages are the water-cooled grate bars, which cannot burn out; and the faced and beaded edges of the sections, which make an absolutely smoke-tight joint. Numerous illustrations are given and particulars of the Ideal "H" Series water and steam boilers, which have a range in capacity from 108,000 to over 1,500,000 B.Th.U. This gives a wide range for selection of sizes. The catalogue should prove a useful reference in the busy office, being convenient in size, fully descriptive and clearly printed.

The Urban District Council of Mexborough desire to hold a conference with local authorities on the question of urging the County Council to erect an open-air school for consumptive children.

Extension works are to be carried out at the Paisley Eye Infirmary. The sum of £6,500 has been mentioned in connection with these works.

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THE TUDORS, GERRARDS CROSS. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

The Abyss.

“All Ireland cannot rule the Earl.” “Then,” said the King, “the Earl shall rule all Ireland.” These historic words have a bearing on the present situation in which one of the Clyde Reds is installed as His Majesty’s Minister of Health. Mr. Wheatley has seen fit to belittle the housing policy of the last Government under which 100,000 houses a year were being provided because that number seemed to him insufficient, but largely because the late Government showed it had sympathy with private enterprise and desired to encourage it. Mr. Wheatley’s first object seems to be to discourage and kill private enterprise and to replace it by an organised raid on the taxpayers’ resources out of which he hopes to procure funds for the building of an immense number of small houses to be carried out at the sweet will of the trade unionists in the building trades.

This is nothing to Mr. Wheatley but an argument for the application of more intensive socialism and measures in restraint of ordinary trade. All profiteering, except that of the so-called working classes and presumably Government controllers, is to be abolished and we are in a fair way to reaching an impasse which, it is to be hoped, will bring into active being some such counterbalancing power as has saved Italy from following Russia down the slope of Communist Revolution.

It seems to us unfortunate that the boasted natural characteristic of a desire to promote fair play should lead the older parties to give one of the most mis-

chievous figures in the present administration rope, for whatever case may be made out for other members of the present Government, none can be made for Mr. Wheatley. He is embarking on a policy which, if endorsed, will finally make it impossible to escape the abyss which has threatened housing ever since the initial mistakes of Mr. Lloyd George’s policy in 1910. Dr. Addison’s schemes brought us nearer danger; the policy of the last Government was a tentative and timid attempt to please the more radical sections of the community and gradually edge away from the whirlpool, an attempt which might have met with some partial success if continued without change for a series of years. Now every vestige of prudence and common sense is to be set on one side and the only thing which can save the country is the possibility that this Administration may have but a short lease of power.

We are convinced that the only solution which will finally end our difficulties is that which will put an end to all restriction of rents, a refusal to give any form of subsidy or grant, and will confine active measures to giving loans on the cheapest economic terms to those who will build certain classes of houses and the freeing of such expenditure from the incidence of rating and income tax for a term of years. Given these inducements and no others, we should in time get all the housing we require.

The question of employment is more important than



THE TUDORS, GERRARDS CROSS. BAILLIE, SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

that of housing, as it is absurd to suppose that we could end our troubles even if the nation presented everyone in the country with a freehold dwelling. A man cannot live without wages even if he gets his house for nothing, and assuming that Mr. Wheatley could carry out his schemes we should only have to face a further demand for doles to supply something else necessary for the "worker."

We should be in the position of one who had given a dinner service only to find the present valueless because there was no food to place upon it. There is no end to a policy of making gifts to one section of the community out of the funds of the other, which is the essence of Socialism, which would infallibly bring about in a few generations one end of the civilisation built up by centuries of powerful effort.

We believe that were matters left alone there is no

reason why the provision of a simple house should cost more than £300, and no reason why the average worker should not be able to pay either a rental which would cover this, or, better still, why he should not be able to borrow such a sum, and pay interest on the loan until the amount is wiped out. We are quite sure that most local authorities would be willing to give land for purposes of housing as their contribution towards solving the problem, and a policy such as we have outlined would encourage housing and at the same time would not provide spoils for the Unions and—if we like to add it—for the builders. Naturally the Socialistic Party would not be best pleased at the extension of private ownership which would take place, but such an extension would be in the interests of the whole community and would exercise a steadying effect, the benefit of which would be enormous.

Registration.

By an A.R.I.B.A.

Most questions that are worth discussing have innumerable points of view. Even a billiard ball has two sides—in and out—so it is but natural that an issue, which has become as controversial as the question of Registration, must of necessity be discussed from many angles and with many-sided arguments.

During the following weeks we shall see an ever-increasing correspondence on this subject, but it is doubtful whether either side will make converts.

Nevertheless, it is only fair to place on record some idea, however inadequately, of the aims and objects of the present "Government" at the R.I.B.A., and give some indication of the merits of the case, which is opposed by the Defence League.

One need not here go into the previous history of events which have culminated in this present *impasse*. Suffice it to say that for some years the Institute has been struggling

with the question of Registration, and very early on it was recognised that, if the R.I.B.A. were to play the leading part in this matter, it would be obliged to form some scheme in which the majority of the profession were united beneath its control. As is well known, the chief difficulty has been to come to some arrangement of amalgamation with the Society of Architects. In 1911 an effort was made to enrol various practising architects who were not embraced within any organisation. It was at that time that Mr. Cross and Mr. George Hubbard, at the request of the Council, preached the gospel of Registration to the provinces, which resulted in Licentiates being admitted to the Institute.

It may be presumed, therefore, that Messrs. Cross and Hubbard were in favour of creating this third class, the inclusion of which was considered as a necessary preliminary to Statutory Registration being obtained.



THE TUDORS, GERRARDS CROSS: MAIN ENTRANCE.
BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

As is well known, the Unification and Registration Committee of 1922 considered two schemes, (1) a scheme of Unification that was almost unanimously accepted, in which outside architects were to be included within the Institute, after details of qualification and other matters had been worked out; and (2) a scheme of "Federation," which was rejected.

The first scheme aimed at keeping the R.I.B.A. supreme among architectural bodies, while the second would have been harmful to the prestige of the Institute, owing to the necessity of setting up an independent body of representatives through whom proposals would have been laid before Parliament. The R.I.B.A., being the foremost body in the profession, naturally wished to retain their rightful position, and in order to do so very delicate negotiations have taken, and are taking, place with the Society of Architects.

It is manifest that in any scheme of amalgamation, such as the first, the R.I.B.A. and Allied Societies and the Society of Architects do virtually represent the vast majority of practising architects in the kingdom. If united, they could, in fact, speak for practically the whole profession.

The principle of obtaining Unification first, as a means to ultimate Registration, was, however, the chief plank in the platform on which the 1921-22 Council took up its position—*hinc illae lacrimae*.

But before continuing the discussion of this principle, we must remember that opinion which is now more or less represented in office was defeated in 1922 partly because it was feared that they would move too progressively, or

too inconsiderately, in their efforts to obtain Registration, and that their methods would ultimately lead to the inundation of the Institute by unqualified architects, thus impairing the status of existing members.

The ensuing Council were in turn defeated in 1923, because it was felt that they had not made sufficient strides in the direction of Registration, which, it may be unhesitatingly stated, is the goal desired by the majority of the R.I.B.A. One party had gone too far and the other not far enough. The present Council were definitely elected for the purpose of pursuing the ideal of Registration, and in doing so are strictly following the wishes of their electors.

Furthermore, one has no reason to suppose that their methods of approach are not in accordance with the aims of the majority. One may presume also that they will profit by the mistakes of the past, since they appear to be proceeding along a *via media* in the hope of reconciling the various interests concerned.

At this date it would be pointless to censure or embarrass the Council, since obviously criticism would be premature before we have had an opportunity of judging the merits or demerits of their considered scheme.

So much has already been pointed out in Mr. Maurice Webb's recent letter.

Some are inclined to assume that the Council's unpublished scheme will include revolutionary changes, which may undermine, for example, the status of the Associates, without bringing us any nearer to Registration. If that be the case, the Defence League have undoubtedly many strong arguments to put forward against the inclusion of the Society of Architects and others in the Institute.

But one may safely assume that those now in office, who for months have been thrashing out the whole question with the Society, do not contemplate putting forward any scheme which tampers with rights of the Associate class, or does not ensure a paramount position being accorded to the R.I.B.A.

Mr. Cross and Mr. Perks have a case which at first sight appears perfectly logical.

They say in effect "We approve and support Registration, but until you get it, don't flood the Institute with a host of unqualified men who have passed no examination or other test." Registration must come before anything else. Having got that, the R.I.B.A. can open or shut its doors as it pleases.

These arguments must naturally carry considerable weight, coming from such able men, whose distinguished positions are well known, and who undoubtedly have the interests of the profession at heart.

Furthermore, the Defence League, which supports them, is somewhat fearful of the consequences attendant upon any measure which may counterbalance the privileges enjoyed by existing members in general and Associates in particular.

It is perfectly obvious that the present "Opposition" at the Institute have most plausible arguments, and their case is far more easy to present than that of the "Government." It is only natural that those who have striven with examiners for their architectural degree and have borne "the burden and heat of the day," should deeply resent the intrusion of the untested, whose admittance to the Institute would depreciate the value of their exclusive class.

But it is also clear that if their class is to be preserved and the whole architectural profession to be benefited, not only now but for generations, then at all cost statutory powers must be obtained.

It is at this point that some may perceive a weakness in the case put forward by Messrs. Cross and Perks.

They admit being in favour of Registration, but in the next breath say that it is unattainable, for reasons which we shall discuss later. If, then, they consider Registration an unrealisable dream, one cannot hope that they would successfully prosecute a Bill for such in Parliament.

In other words, if the supporters of the Defence League came into power it must be anticipated that the present unsatisfactory state of affairs in the profession, with no hope of future protection by means of an Act of Parliament, will continue. The alleged reason for thinking that a Bill would not be passed in the House is that no strong public case could be presented. In this contention Mr. Perks is supported by the advice of Parliamentary agents, who have been consulted. Could it be proved that the opinion of these agents was unquestionably correct, then the Defence League would stand on much firmer ground.

The point that should not be overlooked, and to which particular attention should be drawn, is that other Parliamentary agents of as high a standing as those referred to have also been consulted, and these hold out a measure of hope for obtaining Registration, if the Bill were brought forward in a judicious manner.

It will not be denied that there are obstacles in the path. A parliamentary connection would have to be built up in both Houses, and members would have to be canvassed. The support of the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Health would have to be obtained. Our own differences would have to be settled, as a body that is not united could obviously never propound a good public case.

If these things can be effected and the necessary interests placated, then there would be a distinct hope for a Bill—albeit a very moderate Bill—becoming an Act. But once a Bill, however inadequate, is made law, subsequent amendments to strengthen certain weaknesses do not present insuperable difficulties.

It is for this chance of obtaining Parliamentary support that the present Council is fighting. It is preparing the way by endeavouring to unify the profession in such a manner that the prestige of the R.I.B.A. shall in no wise be impaired, and at the same time settle outstanding differ-

ences before the House of Commons is approached. To refer back to the impossibility of making a strong public case, it must be borne in mind that we as a country are almost alone in our unregistered architectural profession. Sufficiently good public cases have been made in the colonies. Canada, Africa, Australia and New Zealand all enjoy the benefits of a protected profession, and it has further been an unqualified success in most of the States of America.

Why, then, should it be assumed that its attainment is impossible?

It has been put forward as an argument that private individuals practising architecture who belong to no organised society could effectually oppose the passing of any Bill. But in actual practice this residue would in all probability be found on investigation to combine some other business or profession on which their livelihood depended as well as that of building.

If, however, they really exist by architecture alone, what is to prevent their joining one of the Institute's Allied Societies? There cannot be many members in the London area who do not belong to some organisation.

As before stated, the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects do practically represent the profession, and those that remain over would hardly be able to present a strong opposition. Therefore one must bear in mind that should agreement be reached by these bodies Parliament could be approached by the profession speaking with one voice, and that voice would be the Institute's.

The details of how unity may be accomplished or the actual status that outside architects would assume on entering the R.I.B.A. need not trouble us here, since it is of secondary importance to the big issue.

Ample opportunity of cavilling over these will be afforded when the results of the present negotiations have become public property.

In any case, it is clear that if the present Council can come forward with a scheme for the amalgamation of the two largest architectural bodies in the country, which is to the advantage of the Society and not to the detriment of the Institute, then it is obvious that a great effort towards Registration will have been accomplished, provided always that we agree on the unity of the profession being an essential preliminary to the attainment of parliamentary sanction.

Let us just consider for a moment whether the inclusion of outside bodies within the R.I.B.A. does really as much harm to its own members as imagined.

Admission to the Fellowship class is, as we know, not controlled by examinations, so that as far as may be judged their class would not be seriously affected, if some more members were taken in without this test.

The Associates have shown that they are not prepared to have their own privileges counteracted, so we are of opinion that examination will remain an essential qualification for their class.

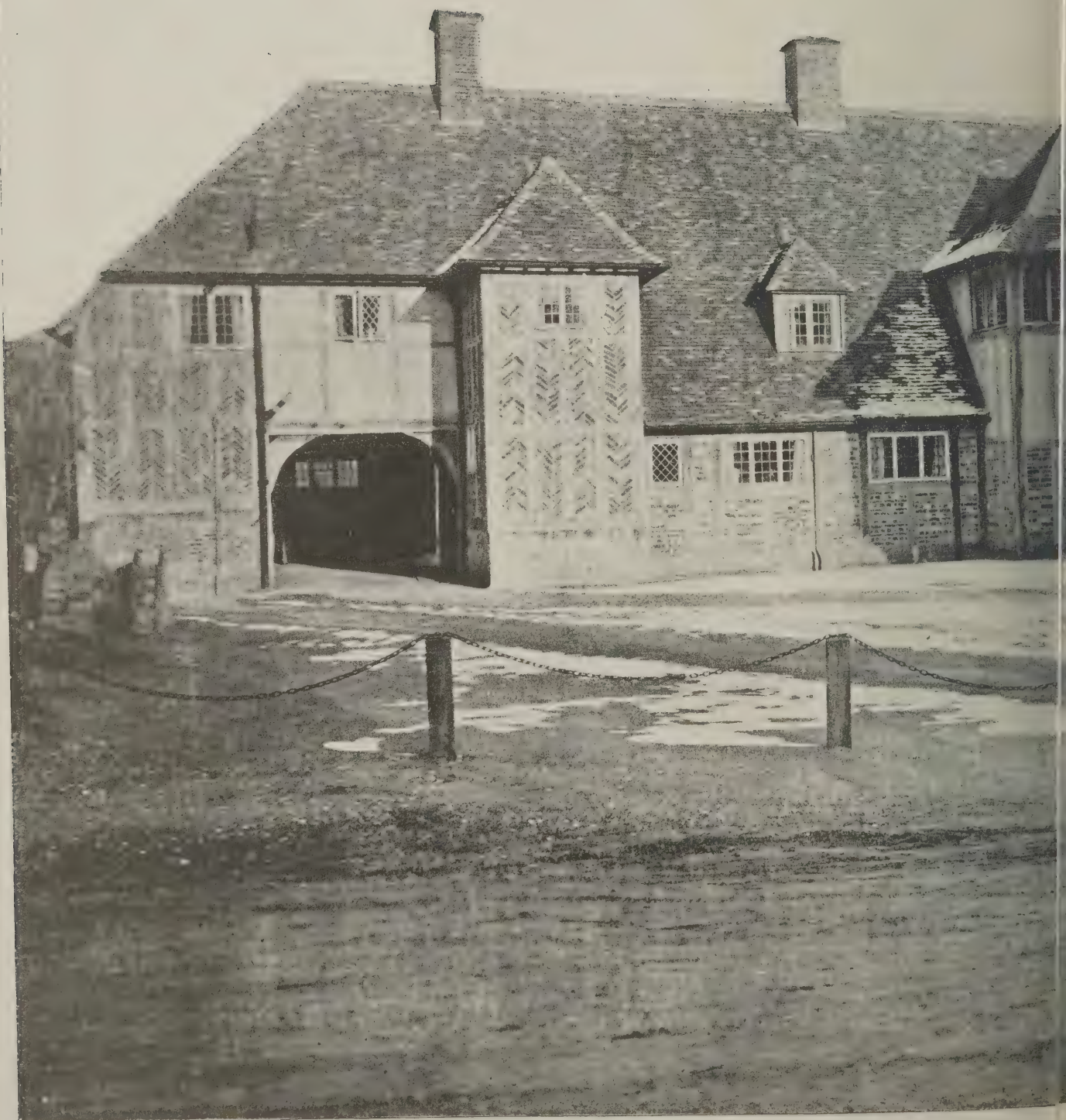
The Licentiates, whose class seems most in danger from invasion, will probably find compensation by the improvement of their standing in the Institute.

Therefore, if what has been stated be correct, existing members will not have to make such great sacrifices as we are sometimes led to suppose; and it must not be forgotten that once a Registration Bill is passed, doors will be shut and the architect of the future will have to pass through the refining fire of examination.

Thus a selfish policy is also short-sighted. It seems, therefore, that the disadvantages of unification, which have been urged by the Defence League, are far outweighed by the benefits that Registration would confer. The question of unification without Registration does not so much concern us here. Our hope is that municipal authorities and the public will come to regard eventually those embraced by the R.I.B.A. machinery as qualified men under whatever style they may be termed, and those who are not enrolled on the Register as quacks.

Whether this end can be brought about by unification alone is open to serious doubt in spite of the possession of a Royal Charter.

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MARCH 14th, 1924.



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RRARDS CROSS.

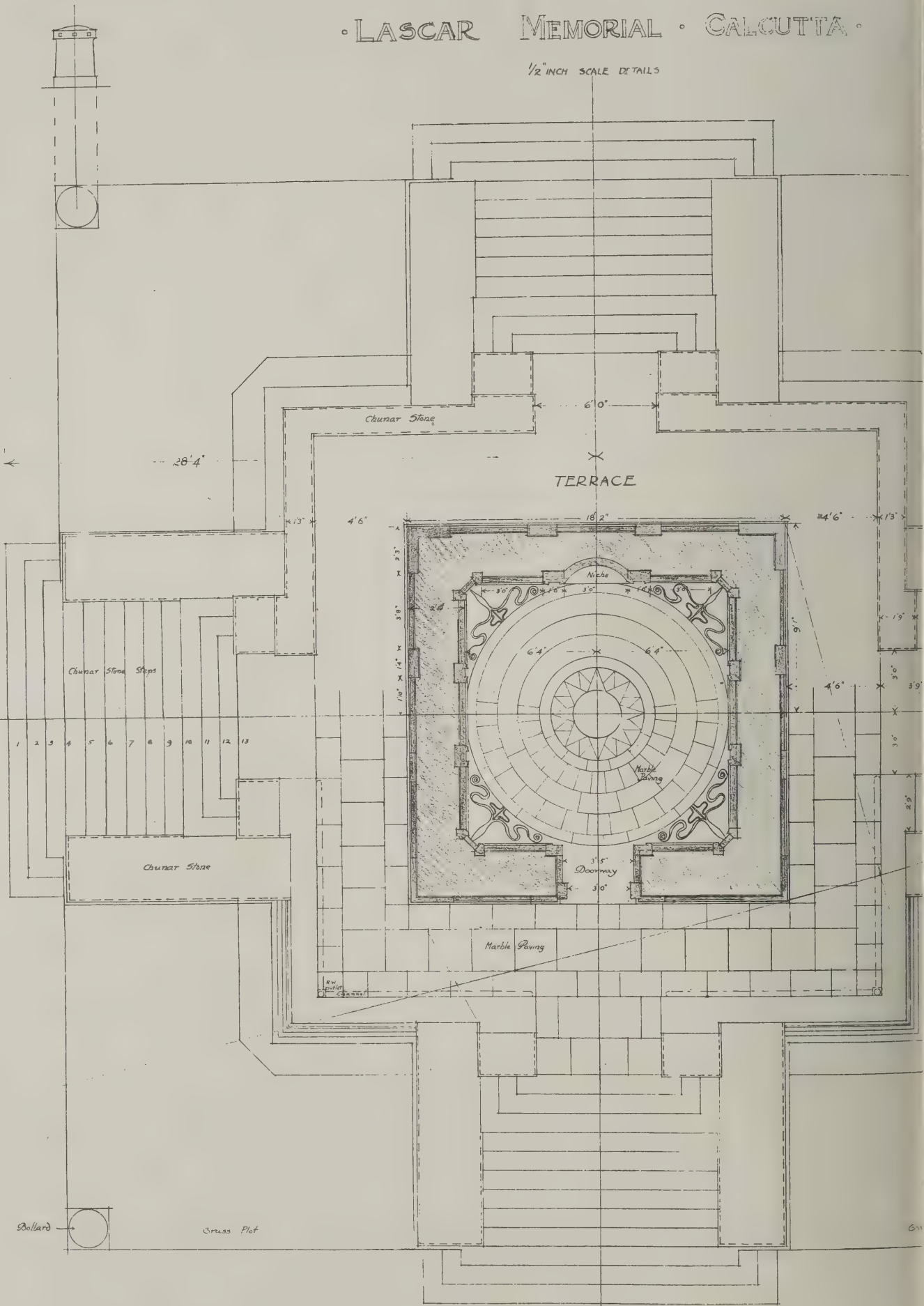
TSFORD, ARCHITECTS.

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• LASCAR MEMORIAL • CALCUTTA •

1/2" INCH SCALE DETAILS



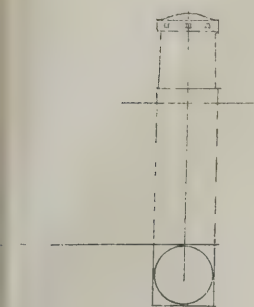
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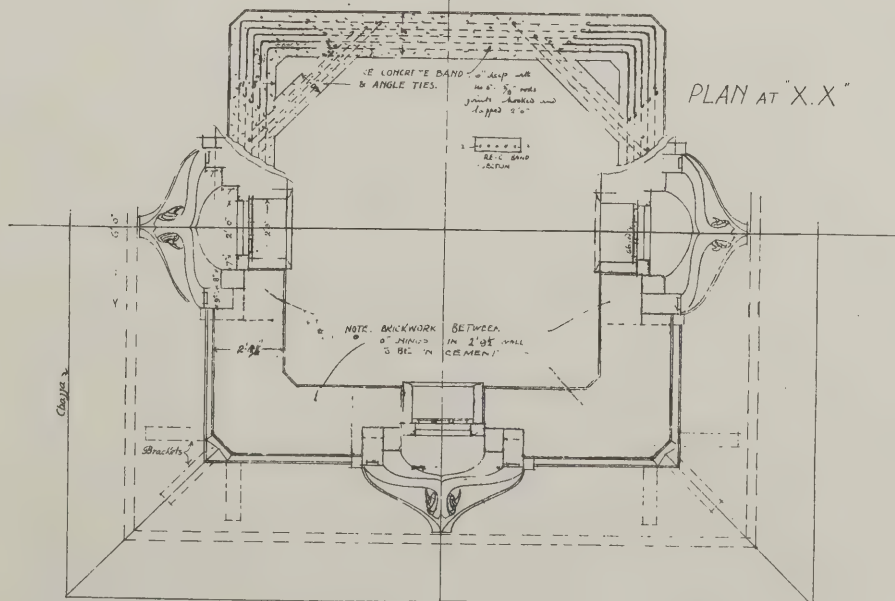
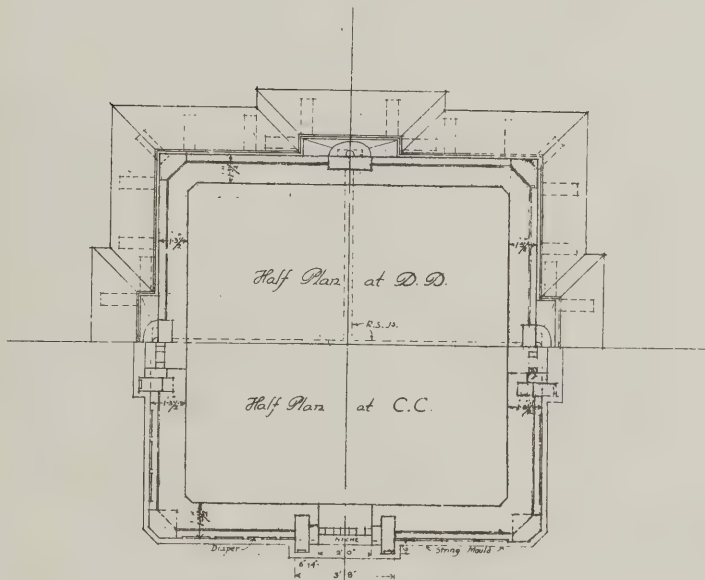
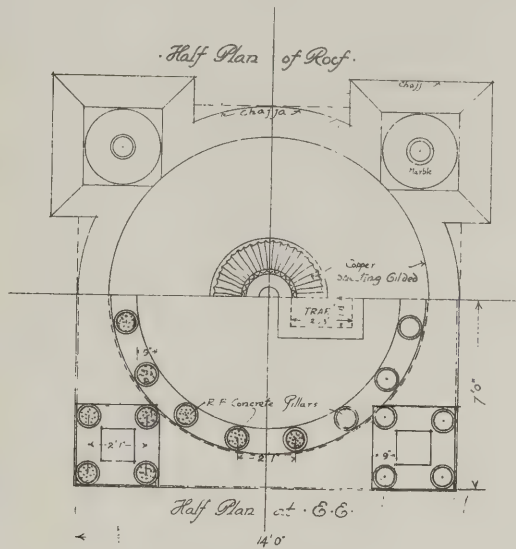
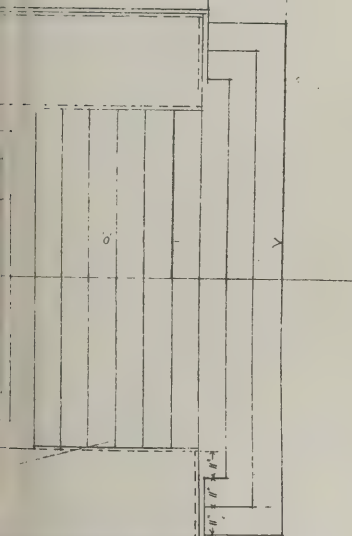
LASCAR MEMORIAL - CALCUTTA.

1/2" INCH SCALE DETAILS

(REVISED)



26' 4"



WIKER ARSBA

Part Plan at B.B.

WIKER ARSBA
WALKER & PHILIP
CALCUTTA
1924

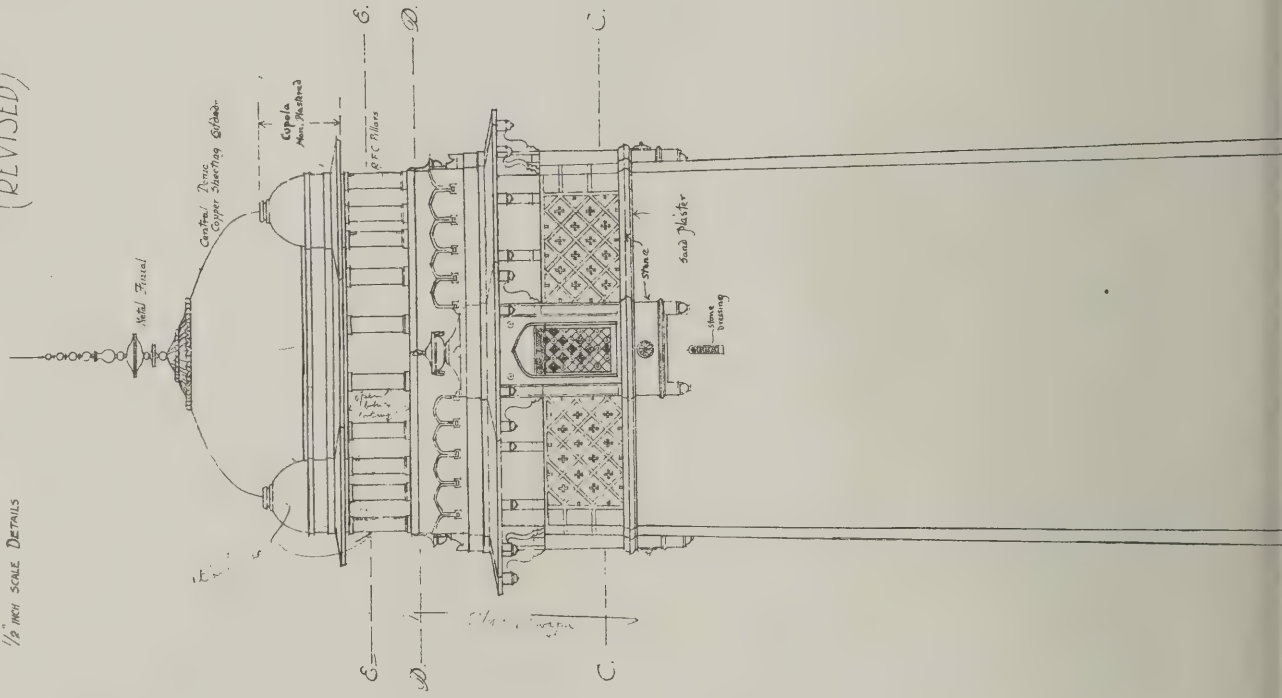
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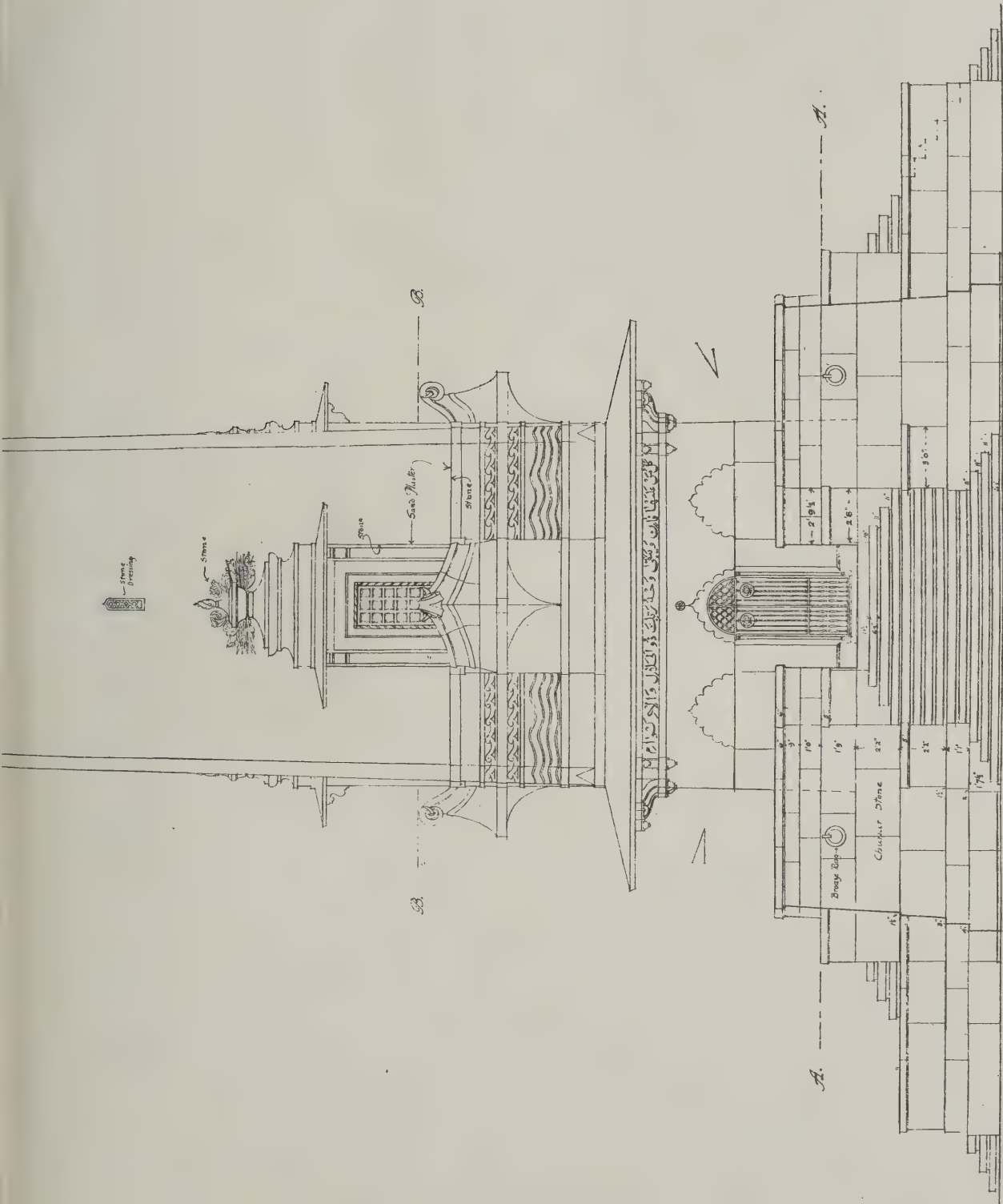
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Elevation

LASCAR MEMORIAL. CALCUTTA.

W. I. KEIR, ARCHITECT.

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There is a strong opinion that if Registration be unattainable the R.I.B.A. should remain a select body of qualified architects, and the more exclusive it becomes the better.

As already foreshadowed in this paper, we strongly protest against the past method of obtaining opinion on this far-reaching subject by snap divisions at general meetings, which do not indicate truly representative views.

Let the present Council therefore stand or fall on a clear-cut Registration issue at the next elections, which shall be in the nature of a referendum on this question.

Whether one belongs to the Defence League or not, it must be remembered that at no previous time has the moment been more opportune for the consolidation of the profession, and that this is no time for a short-sighted policy, as the ultimate good of the profession and the architecture of the country are at stake.

Therefore those who want to see Registration an actual fact must pause, before supporting any policy which is inclined to consider its attainment impossible and allow the matter to be shelved indefinitely.

We consider our contributor is wrong in suggesting that this matter can be satisfactorily settled by a Council Election, which confuses men and issues. It should be finally dealt with by a Referendum as we recently suggested, such Referendum being taken before the May Election. If it is really desired to eliminate political elections this is the only manner of doing it. We may also add that Fellows are now elected from the class of Associates except in rare instances, and the inclusion of new Fellows who have not passed through the Associate rank is detrimental to that latter class.—ED.

Our Illustrations.

THE TUDORS. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

LASCAR MEMORIAL, CALCUTTA. By W. I. KEIR, Architect.

Correspondence.

A Suicidal Policy.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I observe from time to time, as a regular reader of your journal and sometime contributor, that you open your correspondence columns freely to your readers. I append part of a report of the speech of Sir Robert Perks at the meeting of the Southern Railway Company. My work is in Fleet Street, City, and I unfortunately live on the Brighton section of that railway company, and my difficulty is that either I have to come to London Bridge or to Victoria, and it is still more difficult at night time to get home. Now in this case the South Eastern and Chatham sections are fortunate in that they cross the river. When a very conservative body like the City Corporation is giving more or less sympathetic consideration to the demand for the trams over Southwark Bridge it does seem to me to be ridiculous that this constant demand should be made to do away with Charing Cross Station. What difference does it make even if the bridge is ugly? Who uses the river and who wants to? I remember about 30 years ago the question of all railway companies meeting at Covent Garden with one central station for North and South; but that is another subject. I trust that the railway company, for the sake of the public, will never consent to give up their rights and would gladly welcome the Brighton line coming across the river, could it be made possible.

"Referring to the attempt by 'certain architects and æsthetic people' to force the company to transfer Charing Cross station to the other side of the river, Sir Robert Perks said that:

Nothing could be more suicidal for the company, and nothing could be worse for the public. They had only to watch the streams of people toiling across London Bridge on an inclement day to appreciate that point.

It would be a great injustice, seriously retarding the development of transportation, building and residential interests in Surrey and Kent, if the company were for one moment to think of compelling those fifteen or twenty millions of people now landed in Charing Cross every year to walk across a bridge simply to satisfy the peculiar tastes of a few architects."

Yours, etc., QUILL PEN.

The Crayford Urban District Council proposes to erect a further 100 houses on the Watling Street site.

The Bournemouth Corporation Housing Committee are to prepare a new scheme for the erection of 100 houses. In a recent issue we wrote about the difficulties experienced by contractors for housing their employees, but in spite of these difficulties it would appear that the Bournemouth Corporation is determined to supply the housing needs of its community and we heartily congratulate these authorities for their perseverance in this important matter.

The Worthing Town Council approved of the plans for the following houses to be erected in the highways indicated:—One in St. Lawrence Avenue, one in West Avenue, six in St. Valerie Road, two in Grand Avenue, and two in Pembury Road.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MARCH 14, 1874.

THE MODERN EUROPEAN STYLE.

BY JOHN P. SEDDON.

What we want to return to is pure common-sense architecture. Never mind its name—architecture that first makes a good plan and sound construction, and which abhors a mask that puts no feature not necessary, but makes those beautiful that are necessary. Can this be done with revived Italian? I should rejoice to be shown an example, and then might adopt the style at once. But Italian architecture, without its dressings and reduced to common-sense, what is it? As Mr. Street says, it is just the one step further from Queen Anne to Harley Street. Take Sir G. G. Scott's Foreign Office, architecturesque considerations have made him try to make a five-storeyed building look like a three-storeyed one, and so the lighting of the interior has been sacrificed. Italian regularity of the outside has made a hash of the requisite irregularities within.

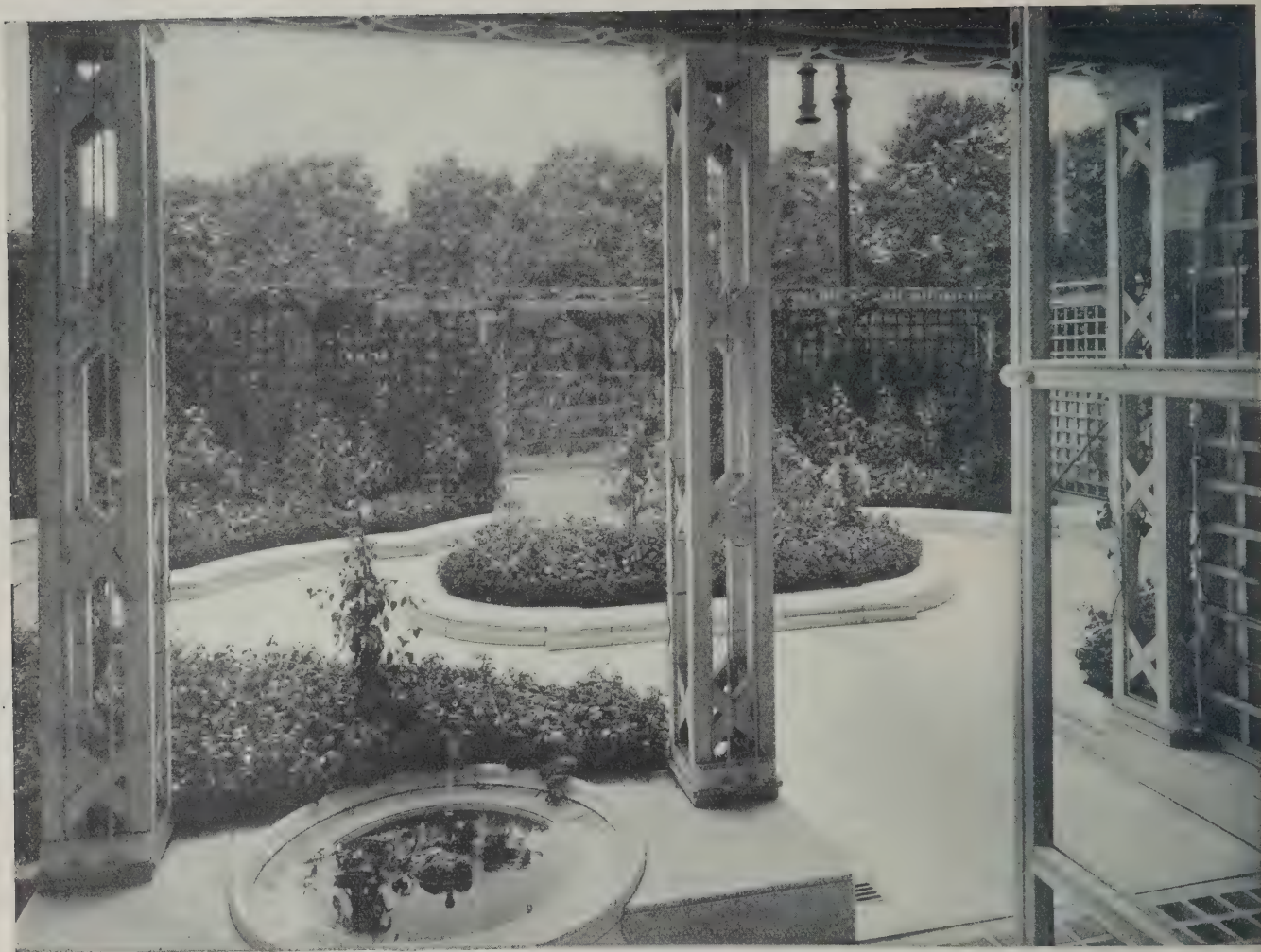
Last week I went over a new Italian public structure with centre and wings, imposing enough outside, but I was told over-windowed for its purpose, but that the elevation required. I asked if the apartments were calculated for their use, and was told, not at all; but then that was necessary to make the wings agree. This may be architecturesque, but it is not architectural.

Professor Kerr thinks that we are coming to something suitable to this age, and Mr. Roger Smith anticipates that regularity is what the age is aiming at. How we are to come out of the slough of architectural impurity we are in with clean hands I cannot see; there is not a feature of Classic architecture not daily murdered before our eyes by those who pretend to reverence it. If there be anything in the proportions of the orders, how can buildings which violate every one of them advance their interests? Regularity is certainly in vogue with the vulgar and with speculating builders; and the rows of terrace-houses of the latter are models of symmetry. The real fact is, this love of regularity is but another form of the canker which destroyed Classic architecture—the attention to the exterior before that of the interior. Let regularity come if it list, as the Gothic architects allowed it, while they refused to be its slaves. Witness the Town Halls in Belgium.

Architecture does not consist in details, so let styles which are known mainly by them be set aside. Let us return to the best phase of past art looked at as a whole, the most comprehensive and scientific, and build in that, and put a prohibitive tax upon dressings. We should soon then see, as Mr. Street has put, by men's work what is in them.

The Urban District Council of Watford passed the plans for a number of houses and bungalows; six houses in St. Albans Lane, two in Rickmansworth Road, two cottages in Gammon's Road, a house in Hempstead Road, a house in Whippendell Road, and two bungalows in Oxhey Road, and one in Queen's Avenue.

Messrs. J. Burn & Co., Ltd., Esher, propose to build 50 houses in Molesey Road.



MARBLE GARDEN, 3 SEAMORE PLACE. P. D. HEPWORTH and G. G. WORNUM, Architects.

Architecture Club Exhibition.

The exhibition of the Architecture Club this year suffers because last year's exhibition included a large selection of the best modern work collected together without too close a limit as to dates. It was necessary to get together subsequent work and the gathering ground of a single year is all too short unless that period has been one of exceptional production. Owing to the high cost of building and difficult financial circumstances the last year has not been productive of great results. Again, our bigger and more important buildings take longer than a year to erect and cannot, for that reason, be included among a collection illustrated by photographs.

The photographs exhibited again are in many cases disappointing. In some of them an endeavour is made to convey picturesque impressions which might be fit and proper in a photographic exhibition, but are out of place in an exhibition meant to show architectural work by means of the camera.

An architectural colour drawing may sometimes be impressionistic as are Mr. Wallcott's, who manipulates colour effects with clever wizardry, oftentimes concealing defects and suggesting excellence not borne out by the logic of facts, but it is useless and futile to essay the same task by photographic trickery. It is true we want to convey the effect of texture and the charm of light and shade, but we do not want artificially created haziness.

A defect in the present exhibition is the insufficient classification and mistakes of juxtaposition of many of the subjects shown. Instances of such unfortunate juxtaposition is afforded in the placing of Mr. Brierley's work next that of a very different school and type, while Mr. Robert Atkinson's Church at Acton is detrimentally affected by the strong side light in which it is shown. Mr. Philip Tilden's work would have looked well in this position.

Evidently a desire is manifested to keep each architect's work as far as possible in a group, which is, we feel, a mistake. The same architect may show a warehouse and a ball-room and each has its place in an exhibition like the present, but that place is in juxtaposition to work of the same category and not that of the same designer.

The most successful sections of the exhibition are those in which class qualification has been applied, viz., the section devoted to housing schemes and that dealing with garden designs

The former includes Nos. 142-144, which illustrate 50 houses for the Welwyn Rural District Council by Mr. Louis de Soissons; Nos. 145-147, the Stanmore Estate at Winchester, the work of Mr. Curtis Green, A.R.A.; No. 151, artisans' dwellings on the Hyde Estate at Edmonton, by Messrs. Niven & Wigglesworth, and a group of houses on the Swanpool Estate at Lincoln, by Messrs. H. nnell & James. These and other exhibits in the same class give a good idea of the best work now being done by architects in housing. Naturally, nearly all these schemes being shown by photographs are handicapped by the absence of the hedges and other natural divisions which can only be added after years of growth. We can now see the effect of planting and growth in the Hampstead Garden Suburb, but it will take years before the newer schemes can give the effect planned by their designers.

Among the photographs of garden work we may mention some excellent examples of Mr. Guy Dawber's design. He has studied this branch of architectural expression with great success. Messrs. Hepworth & Wornum's marble garden at No. 3 Seamore Place, and the same architects' water garden at Hayling Island are charming. Another good garden is the Surle Garden at Great Dexter, by Mr. Nathaniel Lloyd, O.B.E. The collection of garden ornaments is both good and suggestive.

Among other good work we may mention No. 86, Trensham Beale Manor, New Library Bay, and other photographs of the same house by Mr. John D. Clark, architect. While the new Loggia Music Room at Beckford, East Grinstead, by the same architect has distinct charm.

Messrs. Baillie-Scott & Beresford, Nos. 69-71, are represented by some good and typical photographs and by a model. Messrs. Murray Easton and Howard Robertson show an excellent model of their Pavilion and Bathing Pool at Prestatyn, North Wales; while another good model is shown by Mr. P. D. Hepworth of Ugborough Vicarage, Dartmoor.

We question whether the Architecture Club will find a yearly exhibition feasible for the reasons we have given unless they allow members to submit a proportion of their work in the form of sketches or drawings. The alternative seems to be to allow a longer period between exhibitions.

Personal.

Applications are invited by the Cardiff Rural District Council for the post of Building and Public Works Inspector. Salary offered, £240 per annum, to include the provision and upkeep of a bicycle. Applicants must be practical craftsmen; possess a certificate in advanced building construction, and have had practical experience in the supervision and inspection of buildings and public works. The same authority require the services of two Clerks of Works in connection with (a) extension of water mains; (b) construction of reinforced concrete culvert and road improvement works. Salary offered, £5 per week, including out-of-pocket expenses and overtime. Application forms for all three appointments can be obtained from Mr. William Farrow, Engineer and Surveyor to the Council, 20 Park Place, Cardiff. These forms, duly filled in and accompanied by copies of three testimonials, must be sent in to Mr. Warren, Clerk to the Council, Park House, Cardiff, on or before March 17, 1924.

Tredeggar Urban District Council invite applications for the post of second Sanitary Inspector, at a commencing salary of £182 per annum. Particulars from Mr. J. Trevelyan Phillips, Clerk to the Council, Bedwellty House, Tredeggar. Sending date, March 17.

We congratulate Mr. Josiah Gurvan, F.R.I.B.A., who has been admitted as an alderman of the City of London in succession to the late Sir John Bell. There are few honours so greatly prized as those connected with the City Corporation.

The Hull Corporation has accepted a tender valued at £85,456 for the erection of 200 houses.

The Rotherham Corporation have accepted a tender for 56 houses to be erected at East Dene. The average price at which these houses work out is £375 each. The Corporation intend to make arrangements for the erection of an additional 64 houses on the same site. The same authority has made application to the Ministry of Health to borrow £10,000 wherewith to pay a subsidy valued at £100 per house on the erection of 100 houses.

Craftsman Competition.

We are informed that very great interest has been aroused by the announcement of a Craftsman Competition in connection with the forthcoming International Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia. In addition to the prizes in the Craftsmen's Competitions previously announced the following City Companies have kindly undertaken to award further prizes as under:—

(1) The Worshipful Company of Carpenters, £10 and Diplomas and Medals.

(2) The Worshipful Company of Armourers and Braziers, £5.

(3) The Worshipful Company of Painters, Special Prizes or Diplomas to the value of £5 5s.

Besides applications from the London Area many applications have been received from intending competitors from the provinces and the rivalry promises to be keen, interesting and educative.

Schools intending to exhibit work and students who wish to take part in the competitions should communicate at once with Mr. Don Cameron, Hon. Secretary to the Committee of Management, 43, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

The Late W. H. Ward.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. W. H. Ward, which occurred on Tuesday at a nursing home. The funeral will take place at Iver Church, Bucks, next Saturday, at 3.30, and a train leaves Paddington at 2.33 (Station, Iver).

Mr. Ward is very well known as an excellent and conscientious designer and the author of one of the standard works on the French Renaissance. He will be greatly missed by his numerous friends and is a loss to the profession in the exercise of which he had distinguished himself.

The York Corporation passed the plans for five houses in Norfolk Street, a further two in Terry Street, and four houses in Cameron Grove, two houses in Moorland Road, two houses in Hull Road, and two in Skelton Road.



TERRACE GARDEN: KELLING HALL, NORFOLK. EDWARD MAUFE, Architect.
From The Architecture Club Exhibition.

A Beautiful Home Art.

Czecho-Slovakia's Peasant Artists.

By CYRIL G. E. BUNT.



FIG. 1. A TYPICAL DOORWAY AT ZUDRO, NEAR UHERSKY OSTROH, MORAVIAN SLAVOKIA.

Although the purchasing power of the pound-note is not as great as it might be here at home, yet its relative value in many Continental countries has some advantages. Not the least of these is that it makes possible a holiday on the Continent for many who, under more normal conditions, could perhaps scarcely manage to go so far afield. Consequently we find France, Switzerland, Italy and even Germany, absorb each their quota of British visitors during the vacation months. It thus becomes increasingly difficult, for those who prefer to travel as far as possible from the beaten track of the tourist, to find "fresh fields and pastures new."

Few, however, look farther East than Germany for holiday inspiration. Russia, the uncomfortable, looms forbiddingly in the background, and the comparatively new, though exceedingly virile, State of Czecho-Slovakia is scarcely thought of. True, parts of Bohemia are within the purview of fashionable Europe. Even if one has not been there, one has naturally heard of Pilsen of Lager fame; and the towns of Carlsbad and Marienbad are equally well known for their perhaps more beneficial waters. Very few, however, go down into Moravian Slavokia—the true Slovak land that has fortunately been preserved from those Germanising influences so destructive of Bohemian national life. Yet the southern portion of this modern little country is a paradise of unspoilt rural charm. There one may breathe the air of a traditional freedom and enjoy the quaintness of unfamiliar peasant life—beautiful, picturesque costumes, old-world customs and the music of the Czech language in all its pristine purity.

Slavokia is a land of neat and tidy villages and townlets whose friendly, hospitable inhabitants take exceeding pride in their beautiful cottage homes. In the highlands of the north where wood is plentiful the peasant has utilised this material chiefly, and we find his home is log-built, roughly but strongly picturesque. In the south, however—particularly in the provinces of Trenčsén and Pozsony—the homes are built of stone. The same traditional plan is adhered to, but here we find a characteristic addition, the projecting porch (*vystupok* or *zebracka*). This porch is often furnished on either side with a niche and seats on which the peasant is wont to sit in the quiet of the summer evening when the work of the day is done.

On the porch of her house the Slovak peasant woman concentrates all her artistic skill in decorative design. Our

illustration (Fig. 1) shows a particularly pleasing example to be seen at Zudro, near Uhersky Ostroh, Moravian Slavokia. The two large rosettes give a simple dignity and weight to the neat entrance, the scalloped boarding to the arch gives a characteristically feminine touch of "trimming," while in the lunette above the lintel a bold and skilful flower group forms a striking centrepiece to the whole. To complete the mental picture, imagine white-rimmed, gaily coloured windows, and the dazzling white of the doorposts beneath the red tiled roof. A further example of this interesting and highly developed phase of peasant art is shown in Fig. 2. Here we have more fancy displayed and less formality, with the addition of three rosettes relieving the bareness of the white wall above the windows.

We who have such difficulty, even after an art-school training, in evolving original and spontaneous design may well marvel at the fertility of imagination, the freedom of handling, and withal the great feeling for intrinsically beautiful design that characterise this work. And in the districts of which we speak the woman of the house is alone responsible for its decoration. It is clearly a matter of inbred aptitude, a handing down of a surprising and beautiful tradition, not from father to son, but from mother to daughter; and it finds its outlet even in the tasteful decoration of the home-made furniture.

If her greatest talent, her most refined sense of beauty, is displayed on the entrance porch, her most elaborate efforts are expended on the walls of the living room. It is called the "white room" (*biela izba*), and is undoubtedly looked upon as the "show" room of the house. This living room is not, as was the deadly "best room" of our middle-class Victorians, kept for use on rare occasions. That it is made very practical use of may be seen from our illustration (Fig. 3), which shows the grate and oven on the left, while the rack on the right is eloquent of useful pots and pans.

These kitchen hearth-places generally exhibit the housewife's *tour de force* in decorative art. In this instance we have within a flattened arch a pleasantly balanced design of stylised floral motives, the central figure of which is the traditional vase of flowers so persistently seen in the peasant arts of Slavic races. The tulip and carnation are seemingly the original, basic flower forms of many of the Czecho-Slovak patterns, but frequently we may trace



FIG. 2. TYPICAL DOORWAY AT ZUDRO, NEAR UHERSKY OSTROH.



Fig. 4. A PAINTED HEARTH-PLACE AT SVAMBACH.



Fig. 3. A PAINTED HEARTH-PLACE, SHOWING, LEFT, OVEN AND FIREPLACE; RIGHT, KITCHEN UTENSILS.

with much interest an inheritance from other sources. In the motives of the fine inglenook shown in Fig. 4, for example, one may trace Grecian and even Persian motives. In these two examples a prominent feature is the broad, table-like projection. A restrained sense of artistic feeling has been brought to bear upon the decoration of this feature, the design being strikingly similar in each.

Two of the most remarkable specimens to be found are shown in our next two illustrations. To find the older and

most characteristic designs, among which these may be included, one must visit the outlying districts. The colouring, too, in the older examples is more refined and often finer. Fig. 5 exhibits a clever piece of work so closely packed as to resemble filigree. It is also remarkable in that it includes among the mazes of its twining forms many beautifully depicted birds and butterflies. Notice the bold suggestion of butterfly forms on either side and the pretty little fowls above.

The splendid inglenook shown in Fig. 6, perhaps the finest to be found throughout Slavokia, is in a house at Cataj. The cornerpiece on the right-hand buttress is a masterpiece of design, colour-harmony and contrast. Again, nothing could be finer in its way than the band of pure-line ornament above the arch. The three arched panels, joined by a broad dado, with their wealth of intricate star, heart-shaped and lozenge forms; interspersed with tendrils and other floral fancies, are, in their native colours, exceeding rich and fine.

One notices in these wonderful wall paintings, evolved without the use of pattern and entirely by feminine hands, a remarkable analogy with the beautiful peasant embroideries of this same unspoiled land. Similar traditional patterns, a like range of rich, somewhat barbaric coloration, and a prolific play of imaginative invention speak eloquently of the simple, home-loving lives of the Czecho-Slovak peasant.

The Urban District Council of Bridgend passed the plans for 24 houses in Grove Road and also those for four further houses in the same road for other interested parties. Two bungalows are also to be built, one in Jenkins Street and another at Tondur Road, near Cwm Bridge.

The local authorities at Bury have approved of the plans of 42 houses. The Baths Committee of the Town Council recommends the erection of open-air baths adjoining the Clarence reservoir.

It is possible that the terrace which runs alongside the Peak Hydro at Buxton will be removed and shops built on the site.

Twenty-five houses are to be erected by the Blaydon Urban District Council at Chopwell.

The Essex Education Committee has purchased a site for the erection of a new elementary school at Burnt Hill, Billericay.

A new school is to be erected at Bentley, near Doncaster, to accommodate 500 children.

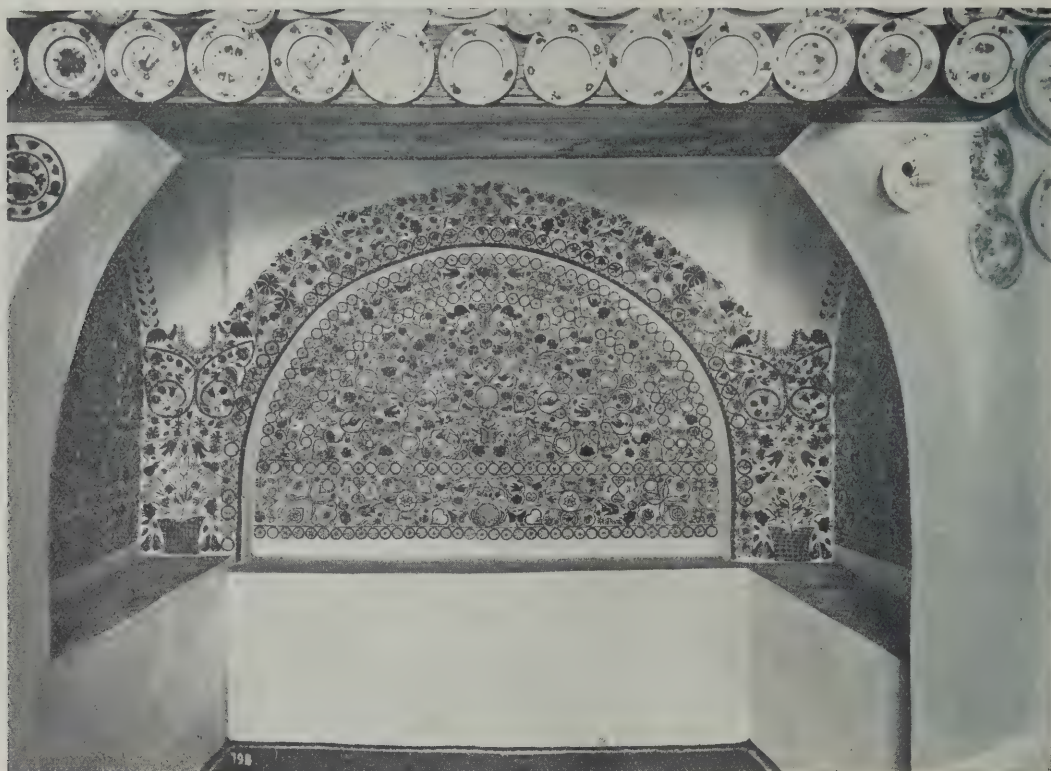


Fig. 5. AN INGLENOOK WITH DESIGN OF FILIGREE FINENESS AT CATAJ.



Fig. 6. A DECORATED INGLENOOK AT CATAJ.

Economic Effects of the Housing Subsidy and the Rent Restriction Acts.*

By J. Calvert Spensley, O.B.E., F.S.I.

Special interest attaches to the two phases of the Housing Question, "Rent Restriction" and "Subsidies," in that they are the subject of direct statutory enactment, and are therefore capable of being guided by expressions of opinion and policy. In this sense they differ from other factors which, though they may have a more important effect on housing, are largely outside the control of legislative action, such as wages, cost of materials, increases or decreases of population, migration, trade, etc. Among these nothing, perhaps, has so important an effect upon the demand for houses as the recovery in the rate of increase of population since the war, while the limitation of labour in the building trade and the persistence of high prices for building materials are predominant factors affecting the supply of houses.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

HOUSE SHORTAGE.

It is hardly necessary to discuss at any length the circumstances which have led to the shortage of dwelling-houses, but it is well to bear in mind the chief causes. In normal times periods of building activity have alternated with periods of building depression, the movement being followed by a converse movement of empty properties. In Greater London the volume of new building, which was high in the period 1898 to 1909, reached a maximum of over 27,000 in a year; it had already fallen to 13,000 when the land value duties legislation was introduced in 1909 and 1910. How far that measure directly or indirectly hastened the fall, and how far the fall was the natural consequence of a high proportion of empty properties, it is not necessary to discuss, but in 1912, 1913 and 1914 the yearly output was only 8,000. Whether with the decrease in empty houses the normal reaction would have begun to take place in 1914 cannot be told, because the war involved the virtual cessation of house building.

As regards the present-day shortage, no definite figure has been stated officially, but in order to have some idea of the magnitude of the problem it may perhaps be said that 50,000 new houses and tenements would meet the immediate needs of Greater London apart from the slum clearance requirements.

According to the census of 1921 the number of houses containing dwellings in Greater London was 1,174,852, the number of structurally separate dwellings being 1,317,357. (In this and in other instances figures for England and Wales are not available.) The number of families in Greater London was 1,822,625, the number of rooms occupied by them being 7,328,359. Assuming the shortage to be 50,000 dwellings, an addition of 4 per cent. to the existing accommodation would appear to meet the immediate requirements.

There is, of course, more than one way of making good the deficiency of housing: the direct way of building new houses of the kind for which there is the greatest demand, and the less direct way of utilising to greater advantage existing house accommodation, preferably by converting large houses into self-contained flats and suites. This latter process has been proceeding rapidly in London lately, especially in the borough of Kensington, followed by Hampstead, Paddington, Lewisham, Westminster and Wandsworth.

In 13 recent cases where the houses were converted into 56 flats, the total rack-rental value of the unconverted houses was £1,833, while after conversion the total inclusive rental of the flats, including rates, house duty, water, and in some cases services, amounted to £9,560; the ratable value comparable with the old value of £1,532 being £4,074, or more than 2½ times as great.

The cost of conversion varies greatly; in some cases the house has been divided into an upper and a lower part with the least possible amount of structural alteration, but in others the house has been largely reconstructed. Generally the effect of conversion has been to secure high rents, which ought to show a very good return on the cost of conversion.

BUILDING COSTS.

The second important factor in the consideration of the question is the abnormally high cost of building. There is, I believe, no authoritative statement showing the variation in cost for any long series of years. The figures set out in the

table below relate to the average approved tender prices submitted to the Ministry of Health in the months mentioned for two of the standard post-war types of houses (Third Annual Report of the Ministry of Health, p. 43, supplemented by the courtesy of the Ministry). On examination it will be seen that the figures are not a satisfactory index of anything more than the broad tendency of price changes: the districts, and possibly the specifications, must have varied to some extent as well as the prices.

	A TYPE (4 ROOMS).					B TYPE (5 ROOMS).				
	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Jan.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Feb.	—	782	834	494	346	—	856	932	560	373
March	—	798	824	494	367	—	932	878	518	373
April	—	817	700	436	364	—	919	838	513	406
May	—	817	697	395	355	—	914	798	446	390
June	643	855	697	392	368	—	953	813	422	371
July	713	860	693	382	341	785	972	792	419	410
Aug.	757	870	665	378	365	833	955	752	413	412
Sept.	800	875	612	370	351	852	956	707	407	405
Oct.	750	881	594	349	352	868	949	659	398	388
Nov.	735	888	573	346	358	834	958	667	407	416
Dec.	744	859	577	332	387	822	960	661	387	435
		841	514	346	410	837	943	566	387	465

The A-type houses in general comprise living room, scullery, bathroom and three bedrooms, and the figures include the cost of drains, paths, fences, etc., but not land, roads or sewers. The B-type houses have, in addition, a parlour.

The corresponding price of a pre-war house built to a type B specification does not appear to have been calculated officially. Comparison between the cost of pre-war and post-war cottages may be made in the case of the London County Council's 1914 and 1919 cottages on Old Oak Estate, and the 1922-23 cottages at Roehampton. Unfortunately, figures relating to the 1924 cottages for Downham are not yet available. The post-war cottages mentioned are the simplest post-war types, but they possess amenities which the pre-war cottages lack, and a reservation is necessary in comparing the figures:—

	BUILDINGS ONLY.			ALL-IN COST.		
	3 Rooms	4 Rooms	5 Rooms	3 Rooms	4 Rooms	5 Rooms
1914 (Old Oak)	£	£	£	£	£	£
1919 (Old Oak)	220	269	317	271	338	401
1921 (estimated)	620	784	895	712	837	1,032
1922 (Roehampton)	774	980	1,119	890	1,071	1,290
1922 (Roehampton) ..	360	406	—	—	—	—

A comparison of the increase in the cost of houses with the corresponding increase in wages and price of building materials cannot be made with exactness, but, so far as a comparison is possible, there does not appear to be any clear indication that there has been any large extent of "going slow" at the present time as compared with pre-war.

With the greater demand for cheap building it is remarkable that, in spite of the impetus given by war to inventiveness generally, house building has been left with no satisfactory substitute for the hand-laid brick. While it may be admitted that centuries of building have evolved a standard brick perfect in shape, size and weight, it is, after all, designed for hand labour, and machinery and mass production have as yet hardly touched the problem of the provision of dwelling-houses. Herein the economic principle of "substitution" seems to have failed in practical results.

HOUSING SUBSIDIES.

CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO SUBSIDIES.

Building subsidies might be defended as a means of relieving a temporary acute shortage of houses; they would appear to be inevitable when the shortage is acute at a time when the cost of building is falling. With the cost of building still 80 to 100 per cent. above the pre-war cost, and the rate of interest 1 point above the pre-war rate, rents, to be remunerative, need to be at least 110 to 130 per cent. above the pre-war standard; but if, as is generally expected, building costs fall in the near future, rents, even on the above standard, would not be remunerative, since they would not provide for the loss in capital value, nor would they be maintainable permanently at that level.

It has been suggested that building costs will become stabilised

*Read at the ordinary general meeting of the Surveyors' Institution on Monday, March 10, 1924.

at about 50 per cent. above the pre-war standard. On this basis, and assuming that the rate of interest becomes stabilised at half above the pre-war rate, rents to be remunerative would need to be about 60 per cent. above the pre-war standard; and when normal is reached the rents of new houses may be expected to hover around this point.

With a prospect of a fall such as this, the provision of dwelling-houses for letting is clearly not a sound investment at the present time, and it is in these circumstances that subsidies, in some form or other, appear to be the only possible way to secure the building of houses for letting.

If a house erected at the present time for £700 to £800 could be erected in three years' time for £600, the granting of a subsidy of £75 to the owner-occupier means that he is receiving from the State one-half of his prospective loss. He, however, gets the house he needs.

Where a subsidy is paid in respect of houses built to be let weekly at rents 40 per cent. above the pre-war standard, the subsidy is required not only to meet the prospective fall in capital value but also to compensate for the possibility that to be remunerative the rent of new houses would need to be stabilised at 60 per cent., and not 40 per cent., above the pre-war standard. These considerations would seem to justify the differentiation in the subsidy as between the owner-occupier's subsidy of £6 per annum for twenty years and the subsidy for houses for letting, amounting to £9 or £9 9s.

From the point of view of the rent-paying community, it is worth a very great deal to secure that the supply of houses shall be sufficient, for unless this is done, and done quickly, there must inevitably be a further raising of the rent standard of existing houses possibly combined with a lowering of the standard of housing accommodation. Already many occupants of State-assisted houses are finding it more and more difficult to pay the rents of the houses with the improved amenities, and are clamouring for transfers to the old-type houses because the rents are lower.

On general principles one effect of housing subsidies might be expected to be to keep up the high cost of building materials and wages and to increase profits without increasing the production of houses to the extent necessary to provide a free margin. In the present instance both the employees in the building trade and the producers of building materials are in a strong economic position to secure high wages and prices, and there is a very real danger lest the country at large will pay heavily before normal conditions are restored. The restoration of the balance between supply and demand is, however, an urgent national problem which requires to be solved without delay, and whatever the cost may be, political considerations may sweep away all economic objections.

None of the subsidy schemes has yet induced builders to provide housing for the classes of the population whose place of residence depends largely on their place of work and whose resources are sufficient only for weekly rentals. It has long been recognised that a large part of any urban population cannot afford to pay the rent of new houses and have always had to be satisfied with "cast-offs." Next in order of economic ability are those for whom housing trusts, and to some extent local authorities, have provided accommodation, failing its provision by private enterprise. It would seem that in the post-war circumstances it will be necessary for these agencies to extend their sphere of action so as to include a large part of the provision of small property let at weekly rentals.

RENT RESTRICTIONS.

RENT RESTRICTION LEGISLATION.

The justification of the rent restriction legislation originally appears to be that it was part of the Government policy of war-time restriction of prices with a view to limiting profiteering and keeping down the cost of living, and there was, above all, the political consideration accorded to the rent-paying community, which forms the great bulk of the population of the country. The principles underlying the subsequent Acts might be justified by the fact that the situation was to some extent created by the Government itself through the war restrictions on building and the calling up of builders for war work.

That the legislation was deemed to be a political necessity may be judged by the fact that the original Bill was introduced by Mr. Walter Long (now Lord Long) when President of the Local Government Board, while that of 1920 was the outcome of the recommendations of a Departmental Committee of which Lord Salisbury was chairman.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF LANDLORDS OF PROTECTED HOUSES.

One of the objections to the particular form of rent restriction adopted is that a fixed percentage does not allow for the wide

differences in the circumstances affecting various types of house property. On the one hand, landlords who would have been content with an increase sufficient to meet the increased cost of repairs, or who would have arranged a transfer of liability for repairs on terms which would have maintained for themselves an equivalent income, have imposed the 40 per cent. increase as a matter of course.

On the other hand, there are many cases where, especially in the case of poor-class property, the flat-rate percentage will barely meet the increase in the cost of repairs and the deficit incurred in the years prior to 1920.

GENERAL EFFECT OF RENT RESTRICTIONS.

Apart from the possibility of obtaining more than a rough idea of the measure of change in rents and prices there is a certain question of principle which emerges. Primarily the high prices paid for pre-war houses are not due to the high cost of post-war building (which is generally understood to be temporary); it is due first to the excess of demand over supply; and, secondarily, to the fact that increased supplies can be obtained only at a very high cost. Had it not been for the falling off in house building in the years immediately before the war, and the reduction in the number of empty properties to an unprecedented minimum, the post-war demand for houses would have been met by the filling up of existing and empty houses. The number of empty houses in Greater London, according to the census, fell from 86,149 in 1911 to 35,923 in 1921, a difference of 50,226 houses. Calculated in another way, the proportion of empty properties in normal times has ranged between 2·8 per cent and 6·6 per cent.; on a total of 1,317,000 tenements in Greater London this represents a difference of 50,000 empty houses, the difference between 1910 and 1920 being 63,000 empty houses. If a margin of such an amount had been available at the outbreak of the war, it would have rendered the restriction of rent by statute unnecessary.

Property-owners and the professions interested in land are unanimous in their demand that rent restrictions should cease, contending that unless freedom of contract is restored there can be no relief of the housing shortage. Psychologically there is truth in the contention, because the very belief in the contention means that solicitors and surveyors will advise the clients not to invest in building schemes, and the fear of State interference may be sufficient to divert an investor's capital into alternative enterprises. There is also the possibility that where the great bulk of the houses are let at a restricted rent, tenants of new houses would be disinclined to pay for all time rents on a far higher standard. From the point of view of economics, restricting the rents of existing houses, while leaving new houses free from restriction, should have the effect not of reducing but of raising the rent standard of uncontrolled houses (and all new houses are uncontrolled), and thereby tend to make building remunerative at an earlier stage than would otherwise be possible, so long as the demand exceeds the supply.

It has also been contended that the rent restriction legislation has stopped building because the would-be investor has been prevented thereby from securing the rents required to make house building remunerative. There is in this contention a basis of economic principle to which great weight will need to be given as soon as the remunerative rent falls to a point more nearly approaching what may be called the "political rent." In the early days of rent restriction building was restricted as a war measure; and when the time had arrived when house building was permitted, the price had risen so high that rents to be remunerative would have necessitated (for example) an increase of a weekly rent of 8s. to no less than 42s., and even this figure would not have provided for the fall in building costs and capital value which was certain to take place. Such an increase would have been politically impossible, and even if it were not, its consequent effect on the cost of living would have had a serious economic effect on the cost of production in all industries throughout the country.

The Ministry of Labour's cost of living figure (which is still a factor in many wages agreements) for January, 1924, is 77 per cent. above 1914, the highest figure having been 176 in November, 1920. Included in the calculation is rent (including rates), the increase since 1914 being taken at 47 per cent. The weight given to rent is two points in a total of 12½. Thus an increase of rent of 10 per cent. would increase the cost of living figure by 1·6.

Moreover, it should not be forgotten that while prices of consumable commodities respond readily to influences in either direction the movement of rents is ponderous, so that rents once raised to the high level required for remunerative investment would not react quickly with the change of circumstances.

It has also been contended that rent restriction has been the cause of the position whereby it has only been found possible

to build for immediate sale ; but it would seem that the position is one of the general consequences either of a falling market or of a deflation of the currency and not to rent restriction *per se*.

Rent restriction would, however, appear to be the cause of the high prices of houses sold with possession in comparison with the prices of those which could not be sold with possession, with the consequent unfairness as between one owner and another. But it is difficult to see how this differentiation could have been avoided except by a restriction of the sale prices, as well as of the rents, of dwelling houses.

The particular form which the rent restriction legislation took has had a deleterious effect on the mobility of the population. The deficiency of the supply of houses would in any event have tended to restrict movement of population, but the immobility was increased by the provisions of the Rent Restriction Acts, whereby houses which were rented on or before the 3rd August, 1914, were controlled, while other houses and new houses were not ; and the Act of 1923, by decontrolling houses when vacated, has inevitably intensified the difficulty, since sitting tenants will cling to their legal protection, which has become almost a vested interest, whereas if they move they lose it. This limitation of the facility with which workmen were accustomed to follow their places of employment and to accommodate their housing to the circumstances and sizes of their families (and it is estimated that before the war working-class families moved once in every three years) is not economically desirable, while it increases the transport difficulties and conduces to overcrowding ; but immobility has been caused by the shortage of houses as well as by the operation of the Rent Restriction Acts.

What would have happened if there had been no rent restriction legislation is a matter of mere speculation. Politically something had to be done, but no one now quite approves either of the method that was adopted or of the subsequent course of events. At the same time, it is not likely that any measure of agreement would have been secured for any other given plan. The hard-and-fast restrictions undoubtedly produced hardships on individuals. Whether a system of rent courts to deal with cases of hardship or unconscionable increases of rent would have produced more satisfactory results is a matter that may still have to be considered if subsidies fail to secure an adequate supply of houses.

THE FUTURE.

The practical question has entered a new phase with the resumption of private enterprise activity and the possibility of dilution of the building trade. If the result is a rapid increase in the pace of house building, especially if this is accompanied by a decline in the cost per house, it ought to retard the extreme increase in the potential rent standard ; that is to say, it may be recognised economic means produce the end which the system of rent restrictions was intended to serve, and at the same time avoid the anomalies which statutory interference with freedom of contract almost inevitably involves. Whether it can possibly produce the result in time to avoid the extension of statutory rent restrictions after 1925 is another question.

Already the check on building (whether caused by high cost of materials or by shortage of skilled labour) has had a very serious effect on the rent-paying community.

If in spite of subsidies it is not possible to produce houses sufficient in number to show a margin of supply over demand by June, 1925, what will happen ? The answer which the economist would give would probably be that, judging from the known factors, there would be an immediate increase of rents, since the Legislature virtually allows an open market in house rents, the only limitation being the county court judge's view of what is "harsh," "oppressive" or "causing exceptional hardship." The answer which the politician would give is probably influenced by the fact that the great bulk of the electors are protected rent-paying tenants and their wives, and that no party could face an electorate from whom protection was withdrawn before a margin of housing accommodation had been secured.

While, therefore, it is no doubt true that anything that interferes with the free play of economic forces is to be deprecated unless the safety or general advantage of the community at large should demand it, there would seem to be a social and certainly a political necessity for a continuance of rent restriction in some form until the housing shortage is remedied. Conversely it may be said that unless the shortage is well on the way to being made good within a very limited time, there will inevitably be a demand for an extension of rent restriction on lines which may have far-reaching political results.

The conclusion must be that we are too close to the practical working of housing subsidies and rent restrictions to judge of their economic results, and that the subject is not so much part

of economics as of politics, and that, for the time being, economic forces are subordinated to political and sociological forces.

APPENDIX.

MOVEMENTS OF BUILDING ACTIVITY, EMPTY HOUSES, PRICES, WAGES, ETC.

Year.	Additional Dwelling-houses England.	New Houses, Greater London.	Empty Properties, Greater London.	Price of Bricks (Index No.).	Price of Wood (Index No.).	Wages in Building Trade (Index No.).	Rates Collected, England.	Rates Levied, London.
Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5	Col. 6	Col. 7	Col. 8	Col. 9
1871	—	8,693	per cent.	97	163	—	s. d.	s. d.
1872	—	11,179	7.3	106	167	—	3 2½	4 7
1873	—	7,687	5.9	124	181	—	3 2½	—
1874	—	7,764	5.0	106	185	76	3 4½	4 1
1875	73,632	10,023	4.3	97	161	79	3 4	—
1876	66,004	12,938	3.9	97	163	82	3 3½	—
1877	98,890	14,410	4.0	97	159	84	3 3	4 10
1878	84,202	17,127	4.2	88	139	83	3 3½	5 0
1879	85,115	21,589	4.7	74	121	81	3 4	—
1880	73,715	24,945	5.2	79	138	80	3 4½	5 0½
1881	63,579	26,170	5.4	74	139	80	3 5	—
1882	96,892	23,301	5.8	88	142	80	3 5½	5 0½
1883	75,136	21,110	6.9	79	138	79	3 6	—
1884	62,827	18,428	7.7	79	123	79	3 6	5 3
1885	47,406	15,754	7.0	79	119	79	3 6½	—
1886	62,170	12,252	6.6	79	105	79	3 7	5 3½
1887	63,885	12,478	6.1	79	99	79	3 7½	—
1888	71,594	12,426	5.9	79	106	79	3 8	—
1889	75,441	11,829	5.4	79	118	80	3 8	5 3
1890	47,034	10,935	5.0	106	109	81	3 8	5 5
1891	79,188	12,105	4.8	97	100	82	3 8	5 5
1892	54,278	11,200	4.6	97	100	83	3 10	5 6½
1893	34,229	12,830	4.4	88	93	84	4 0½	6 0½
1894	63,686	12,874	4.4	88	89	85	4 2½	6 0½
1895	86,047	13,141	4.2	88	91	86	4 5	6 2½
1896	96,602	16,894	3.6	88	95	88	4 6½	6 2
1897	89,287	18,529	3.1	88	96	89	4 9½	6 1
1898	106,003	24,838	2.9	97	98	92	4 10	6 0½
1899	126,849	27,381	2.8	106	97	93	5 0	6 3½
1900	122,578	25,161	3.0	106	103	94	5 1½	6 6½
1901	117,146	27,174	3.1	97	97	94	5 4	6 9½
1902	108,034	25,480	3.2	88	91	94	5 7½	7 3
1903	118,681	26,420	3.5	88	93	94	5 9½	7 3
1904	115,409	23,269	—	88	88	94	6 0	7 4
1905	129,842	21,970	4.7	86	90	94	6 1	7 6
1906	101,674	21,415	4.7	82	92	94	6 1	7 6½
1907	89,776	19,211	5.3	84	95	94	6 0	7 4½
1908	95,986	13,377	6.0	86	90	94	6 1	7 5
1909	96,251	13,343	6.6	79	86	94	6 2½	7 6
1910	29,532	11,757	5.9	79	87	94	6 4	7 7
1911	89,778	10,027	5.3	79	91	94	6 5	7 8
1912	57,039	8,006	4.7	84	101	95	6 6½	7 7
1913	59,312	8,579	3.9	93	98	98	6 9	7 9
1914	67,577	8,299	3.7	100	100	100	6 10½	8 0½
1915	—	5,549	3.8	119	156	103	7 0½	8 1½
1916	—	3,642	3.8	135	242	120	6 8½	7 8
1917	—	263	3.6	169	296	140	6 10½	7 10½
1918	—	123	3.1	194	291	180	7 8½	8 10
1919	4,879	100	2.1	279	359	215	9 6½	10 1
1920	15,711*	2,112	1.5	360	362	280	13 7	15 0
1921	86,667*	10,408	1.9	—	—	200	14 9½	15 9
1922	83,999*	17,903	2.1	—	—	180	13 3½	13 8
1923	19,185*	—	2.2	224	205	170	12 0½	—
	71,535	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* State assisted only.

SOURCES OF REFERENCE :—
Col. 2.—Inland Revenue Commissioners Inhabited House Duty Statistics, 1875-1919. Ministry of Health, 1920-1923.
Col. 3.—Metropolitan Police, 1871-1918. London County Council, 1919-1922.
Col. 4.—London Water Companies, 1871-1903. Metropolitan Water Board, 1905-1923.
Cols. 5 and 6.—Board of Trade—figures readjusted.
Col. 7.—Board of Trade and Ministry of Labour, 1874-1917—figures readjusted 1921-1923. Prof. B. L. Bowley, 1916-1920.
Col. 8.—Local Government Board and Ministry of Health.
Col. 9.—London County Council.

Messrs. Fryers and Penman, architects, of Largs, have prepared the plans, Beith Church, Hall, etc. The estimated cost of the new buildings is estimated at £11,500.

The Wrexham Golf Club propose to erect a new clubhouse at Borrass. The plans have been passed by the Rural District Council.

Mr. Elwyn Morgan, architect, is the architect who has designed one hundred houses for the Gellygaer Urban District Council.

The Fleetwood Urban District Council passed the following house building plans: Three in Darbishire Road, six in Park Avenue, and two in Fleetwood Avenue.

The Paisley Dean of Guild Court recently passed the plans for two bungalows in Calside, Paisley. Mr. Hamilton Neil, F.R.I.B.A., architect, 157, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, submitted plans for a bungalow in Garlmore Road. The same were approved by the Court.

Parliamentary powers are being sought by the London and North Eastern Railway Co. which will enable them to erect new works and tracks at Frodingham. The sum of £188,726 is involved in these constructional schemes, which include a new passenger station.

The Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court recently passed the plans for a number of houses.

Housing. North of England.

The Grimsby Rural District Council have passed a resolution expressing the opinion that the £6 subsidy was inadequate to meet the circumstances of rural districts, particularly where local building materials are not readily available and the cost of transit of such materials renders building impossible. For anybody who has travelled the surrounding district it will be easy to realise the justification of this opinion. Authority has been given by the above Council for negotiations to be started for the purchase of a site in the parish of Brampton Burlow which will permit the erection of 200 houses.

The Rother Vale Collieries will erect 25 houses in the parish of Treeton if the Council will build a like number.

Considerable feeling was shown at a recent Abergavenny Town Council meeting with regard to the refusal on the part of the Ministry to permit the Town Council to sell the surplus land under the housing scheme, the price fixed by the Ministry for plots worked out at £600 per acre.

South and West of England.

The Urban District Council of Erith has approved of the following housing plans: two are to be erected in Lesney Park Road three in New Road, Abbey Road.

The Bromley Rural District Council has passed the plans for a number of bungalows in different parts of Cudham, one at Strathcona, Sunderland Avenue, another in Norheads Lane, a third in Village Green Avenue.

Twenty houses are to be erected by Mr. G. Arthur at Dorking, all of them will qualify for the housing subsidy.

The Guildford Town Council had a number of housing plans submitted to them at a recent meeting, those passed include a house in Madrid Road, another in Bray Road, two in Stockton Road, another in Ennismore Avenue. A house is also to be erected in Avonmore Avenue and a bungalow in Harvey Road. A pair of houses in Grange Road and a single house in Worplesdon Road conclude the list.

Ireland.

The plans for eight villas to be erected in Salisbury Avenue, Belfast, were passed by the Corporation. The same authority also approved of the plans for the following houses: four in Bawnmore Road and two in Luxor Gardens.

General News.

South and West of England.

Mr. A. Kempton Dyson, architect, is carrying out his plans for a new residential hotel at Herne Bay to be called "The Lees."

Mr. J. Sunlight, architect, has prepared the plans for the Reigate police station. The new buildings will cost £5,000.

The Bedford borough engineer has been requested by the Town Council to prepare a scheme for the reconstruction of the swimming baths in Commercial Road.

The Ministry of Health has granted permission to the Edmonton Guardians to spend £5,230 on the proposed reconstructions works at Edmonton House in connection with the laundry department.

On the Belvedere Recreation Ground, Erith, it is proposed to erect a new bowling pavilion.

A site has been purchased by the Devon Public Health Committee, four miles from Exeter, for the erection of a county smallpox hospital.

The Borough Council of Deptford are appointing a deputation to await on the Ministry of Health with a view to convincing this authority of the urgent necessity for the erection of bath and washhouses in Evelyn Street, an application for permission to borrow money to meet the building expenses of these baths, etc., having been refused. We do not understand the Ministry of Health's attitude in this matter. We consider the very title of the Ministry should call for a sympathetic attitude towards the erection of all institutions which contribute largely towards the health of the community in general. Houses and tenements are of not much use unless baths and washhouses are within easy reach.

Sir Brumwell Thomas has submitted plans for offices to be erected on the Banstead Road site, Purley, to the Coulsdon and Purley Council which have been approved.

Midlands.

The Nottingham Corporation have the recommendation of their Public Libraries and Museum Committee before them which includes a suggestion that branch libraries be erected in the Radford and Lenton district and also at Vernon Park, Bashford.

Plans for open-air schools at Findern, Stonebroom and Dronfield have been submitted by the Derbyshire Education Committee to the Board of Education.

Scotland.

From the report of the Sites and Building Committees of the Derbyshire Education Committee one gathers that the need for secondary school accommodation is urgent at Eckington.

The plans for a picture-house in Leith Walk, corner of Annandale Street, were recently passed by the Edinburgh Dean of Guild Court, the promoters being the Edinburgh Hippodrome, Ltd. A proposal is on foot for the erection of a high altar in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh, in memory of Monsignor Stuart.

A store building is to be erected in Caledonian Crescent, the plans having been passed.

The British Oxygen Co., Ltd., had plans submitted on their behalf for the erection of an oil and petrol store at Seafield Road, Portobello. The subject of the erection of a municipal crematorium has been referred to a sub-committee. It is also proposed to receive a deputation from the Executive Council of the Edinburgh Crematorium Society. The architectural opportunities are very great in buildings of this nature. The Golders Green buildings designed by Sir Ernest George and Yeats, architects, are very pleasing externally, though we feel that the planning of the interior might have been more in sympathy with ceremony that is performed. The accommodation for those who wish to see the actual committal are, in our opinion, rather crude.

A new school scheme for Forteviot is under consideration by the Perthshire Education Authority.

Catalogues.

In every modern building sanitary and toilet requirements are finding elegant expression and the architect is undoubtedly greatly assisted in his work by books, one of which we now have before us, published by The Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Wortley, Leeds. The authors of this book have introduced some very charming two-colour effects in the headings based on the use of tiles. The general spacing of the letterpress bespeaks the fact that this company possess a very high appreciation of the necessity to please, and this appreciation is undoubtedly incorporated in the quality of the fittings illustrated.

British sanitary ware and fittings have always been recognised as the best. This fact has undoubtedly been greatly assisted by the natural characteristic love of cleanliness in everything. Manufacturers have not been content in producing fine goods, but have devoted careful study to the production of the most comfortable and artistic fittings. The Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., have identified themselves with this study, and a perusal of their latest book on Leeds Fireclay ware will convince the profession that this company have spared no expense in producing the most convenient and artistic results. The firm does not confine its efforts to sanitary ware and fittings alone. The "Shepwood" patent glazed partition bricks for use in public conveniences, Burmantoft's Terra Cotta, Lefco fireplaces and garden vases, Imperial Porcelain manufactures for industrial purposes, are amongst the few special products made by this company. The Regent Palace Hotel is faced with Burmantoft's "Marmo," and recently the whole building was washed down and appeared again as when it was first opened. For hotels we cannot imagine a more suitable material.

Trade Notes.

Messrs. Goddard & Smith, auctioneers and surveyors, of 22 King Street, St. James', S.W.1, inform us that they have sold by private treaty the modern building known as Trafalgar House, Waterloo Place, S.W. The building is a direct Crown lease with about 70 years to run and is let in sections to two well-known banks, three prominent insurance companies, and other prominent lessees at rentals totalling about £25,000 per annum. The purchasers have retained Messrs. Goddard & Smith as their managing agents.

Boyle's latest patent "Air-pump" ventilators have been applied to Norfolk Hotel, Brighton. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Invitations for tenders in connection with the supply of materials until the year ending March 31, 1925, have been issued by Geo. H. Wild, surveyor to the Council of Littleborough, Council Offices, Littleborough. A similar invitation for six months' supply has been issued by W. E. Beacham, engineer and surveyor, Town Hall, Leek.

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Abusing the Great.

In reading Mr. Trystan Edwards's monograph on Sir William Chambers, published by Benn Bros., there is a passage which calls for protest:—

"But on the left bank how pre-eminent is Somerset House in all the qualities of noble building. Can we for a moment endure to compare it with Scotland Yard, *shameless in its clumsy rusticity*, or with the restless clubs of Whitehall Court, of which the bristling roofs and chimneys are so inappropriately inspired by the Château of Chambord."

We do not yield to anyone in our admiration for Chambers's great work, but we think this admiration should not make us unjust to the greatest architect of the last century whose work and achievement may reasonably be considered as great as that of Chambers himself. If we were to consider the roll of architects of eminence since Wren, we believe a fair judgment would accord Norman Shaw a place in the roll of honour only second to that of Wren himself. Shaw also lived in difficult times, which we might call the nadir of English architectural effort; but in spite of that, his achievements were colossal, the buildings he has left us are stamped as the work of a great genius, and though he worked in a freer and more picturesque vein than that which is temporarily popular with architects, he contrived to give everything he touched an enduring dignity and impressiveness which are often absent from the more formal efforts of the lesser men who came after him.

Shaw cared nothing for advertisement, and used no effort to attract attention to himself or to his work. He was innately modest and unself-conscious, qualities which stamp his work whether public or domestic.

No direct comparison can be made between Somerset House with its long river frontage and the short broken frontage of Scotland Yard, separated by a courtyard into two distinct portions; but, impartially considered, we claim that each building is equally stamped as the work of a great designer. We do not know what Mr. Trystan Edwards means by the "clumsy rusticity" of Scotland Yard, and the phrase might as fittingly be employed in speaking of the Pitti Palace for Scotland Yard, for, despite a complete dissimilarity in style, both buildings have the same expression of masculine force and directness. To couple Scotland Yard with the nondescript buildings which line the Embankment is to libel a very great architect. Shaw carried out the work which came to him, and therefore did little public work, but no impartial critic can doubt that he would have succeeded in the design of the greatest buildings as he did in the work he carried out. His work in the Quadrant, like Scotland Yard, has a scale and expression which makes most modern work look tame by comparison, while his great country houses are masterpieces of unaffected design. He was too great a designer to indulge in affectations, and probably never cared whether his designs were

formal or picturesque in character. Like Wren, his work is thoroughly English, but, like Wren, he freely made use of what he had seen and admired; but in making use of it he transmuted it with his own individuality, while the gathering ground of his ideas was broader and more cosmopolitan than would have been the case had he lived in an earlier century.

Professor Reilly has spoken disparagingly of Shaw's work, but much of the merit of the work of to-day is indirectly attributable to the influence of Shaw. It is a misfortune for our national architecture that Shaw's life could not have been extended for the space of another fifty years, for had it been he would have established an undying tradition and saved us from the dull formalism with which we tend to become over-weighted. As it is, pedants and stylists have had their innings, and we have round us types of self-conscious affectation in design which might afford food for the satire of W. S. Gilbert.

We do not doubt that had Shaw had a longer span of life he would have been more strongly influenced by classical currents, but he would never have allowed them to freeze his natural force and conception of fitness. He would have produced work which might be cavilled at by pedants, but which would have delighted those who appreciated great designs.

As it is, it is some of the later architects who grew up in association with him who have carried on the gospel he unconsciously preached. We may instance Ernest Newton's most refined and interesting work, and Mr. Horace Field's numerous buildings, amongst which the North-Eastern Railway Company's offices at York are notable. Bryden, too, was strongly influenced by the great architect, and we can reconstruct in imagination what the offices of the Local Government Board might have been but for his untimely death. Our best domestic architecture of to-day would have been impossible if a sure foundation had not been laid by Shaw.

Autre temps, autre mœurs, the memory of the prophets of old times may be forgotten by another generation, which is our reason for entering a protest against the belittlement of one whose memory we revere and whom we think should be remembered with gratitude and affection by all who love architecture and would do homage to great men. We would also suggest that the present wave of formalism may break and disappear, and that our younger men should study the work of one of the greatest architects we have ever had.

We want to learn to study and analyse architectural work without prejudice. It may be formal or picturesque, but in either case it may be marked by dignity and strength. Much of Shaw's work was unquestionably picturesque, but it was never trivial or wanting in a note of what Sir Reginald Blomfield characterises as the grand manner.

Our Illustrations.

DETAILS OF NEW OAK CHOIR STALLS, DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL. SIR ROBERT LORIMER, A.R.A., Architect.
 VIEWS OF WATERLOO BRIDGE FROM THE SAVOY HOTEL. By C. R. W. NEVINSON.
 SKETCH DESIGN FOR A COUNTRY MANSION. By WILLIAM T. BENSLEY, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

A Vision of Horror.

Mr. J. C. Squire, speaking at the annual dinner of the Design and Industries Association, said that were he given autocratic powers to recreate London he would have spires, real spires, towering up big, bold and beautiful against the skyline to break the monotonous line of the modern public building, as it was now being built. His idea of London would be a city of magnificent public buildings each surmounted by a splendid spire. Messrs. Selfridge's premises in Oxford Street would be London's finest landmark, rising to a height of 450 feet as compared with 300 feet of the Victoria Tower of the Houses of Parliament. Does it not appeal to Mr. Squire as being rather inappropriate that a commercial building devoted to the retail sale of drapery should be allowed to emulate the state and importance of a great public building? We would prefer to see the use of towers—and shall we say spires?—only permitted in the case of public buildings. Mr. Squire's suggestions make our hair rise.

Mr. Nevinson's Work.

We are glad to illustrate some of Mr. Nevinson's work from the exhibition now on view at the Leicester Galleries, as his reputation is deservedly a great one. His work is interesting also because in its very varied forms it bridges the gulf which lies between what we should describe as being the eminently sane and the undoubtedly mad. The work of many artists, amongst whom the name of Mr. Mark Gertler occurs to us, suggests to us that they either amuse themselves by experimenting upon the credulity of the public or have a sort of sixth sense which prevents their seeing things as they appear to others. Possibly in the course of another century the world will have some key which will enable it to realise what the cubists and other interesting æsthetic sects were really aiming at, but at present most of us are wandering in the dark without being able to find such a key.

Park Lane.

We do not think that Mr. Mark Judge's suggestion that the railings along Park Lane should be removed in order to give the houses the appearance of standing on the edge of the Park, has the smallest chance of being realised. The Englishman's love of individual privacy and his sense of personal possession is quite as strong among the favoured denizens of Park Lane as in some dingy suburb of outer London. The undivided suburban districts round great American towns like St. Paul and Minneapolis have distinct advantages—from the point of view of those who pass along the road—but very few English people would feel quite comfortable in gardens which are on every side exposed to view. It may be possible to introduce new ideas in a garden city, but Park Lane is about the worst starting ground that could be chosen.

Clopton Bridge, Stratford-on-Avon.

A correspondent writes to the "Birmingham Daily Post" as follows:—

A great deal of uninformed criticism is being directed against the proposal of the Stratford-on-Avon Town Council to widen the Clopton Bridge, which crosses the river on fourteen arches. It was built in the fifteenth century by Sir Hugh Clopton, and was widened to twenty feet in 1814. In 1827 the up-stream parapet was removed, and an ugly iron footpath was hung on the side of the bridge along its whole length. Three main roads converge at one end of the bridge, and traffic leaves the town by five main roads at the other end. The increase of traffic necessitates the widening; the approaches are spacious and create no difficulty. The proposal of the Town Council is to remove the iron footpath, widen the bridge by twenty feet, restore the parapet removed in 1827, and face the extended arches and piers with the existing stone, so as to reproduce its present old, worn appearance.

The only new stonework will be the up-stream parapet, which will be built in dark stone to match the existing arches. The down-stream side will not be touched. The effect, therefore, will be to restore the bridge to the appearance it presented before its mutilation in the last century, and, while meeting the needs of present-day traffic, to preserve its picturesque and distinctive character.

We do not know the facts of the case, but should say that Mr. Ernest Parkes, who writes the letter, has expressed a very sensible view on a problem which has its counterpart in many parts of the country where the difficulties of traffic are becoming greatly accentuated.

Concrete Architecture.

We hardly agree with Mr. Maxwell Ayrton and other enthusiasts that the use of concrete and ferro-concrete in building is likely to revolutionise architecture, though it unquestionably will have a certain amount of influence in the design of special buildings. If buildings are great in size and utilitarian in character there is a tendency to eliminate detail, relying chiefly on form whether those buildings are carried out in concrete or brickwork. In all utilitarian buildings it is necessary to keep down expense, and for that reason to "skin design," irrespective of the resulting appearance. But in the great mass of buildings erected, protection from the weather and the preservation of even temperatures are the essential factors rather than structural strength, and such buildings do not open up necessities for departure from normal methods of design. The great difficulty of making subsequent alterations in ferro-concrete buildings will always prove a drawback to its employment in very many buildings. We rather look on ferro-concrete as a useful servant supplementing ordinary construction than as a determining element in the design of the future. The one great possibility for ferro-concrete has always seemed to us to be in bridge designing, a form of construction which it may largely revolutionise and in which it affords a good *via media* between the stone bridges we all like but which are in most cases now impracticable, because of their expense, and the naked iron bridges which fail to give us satisfaction.

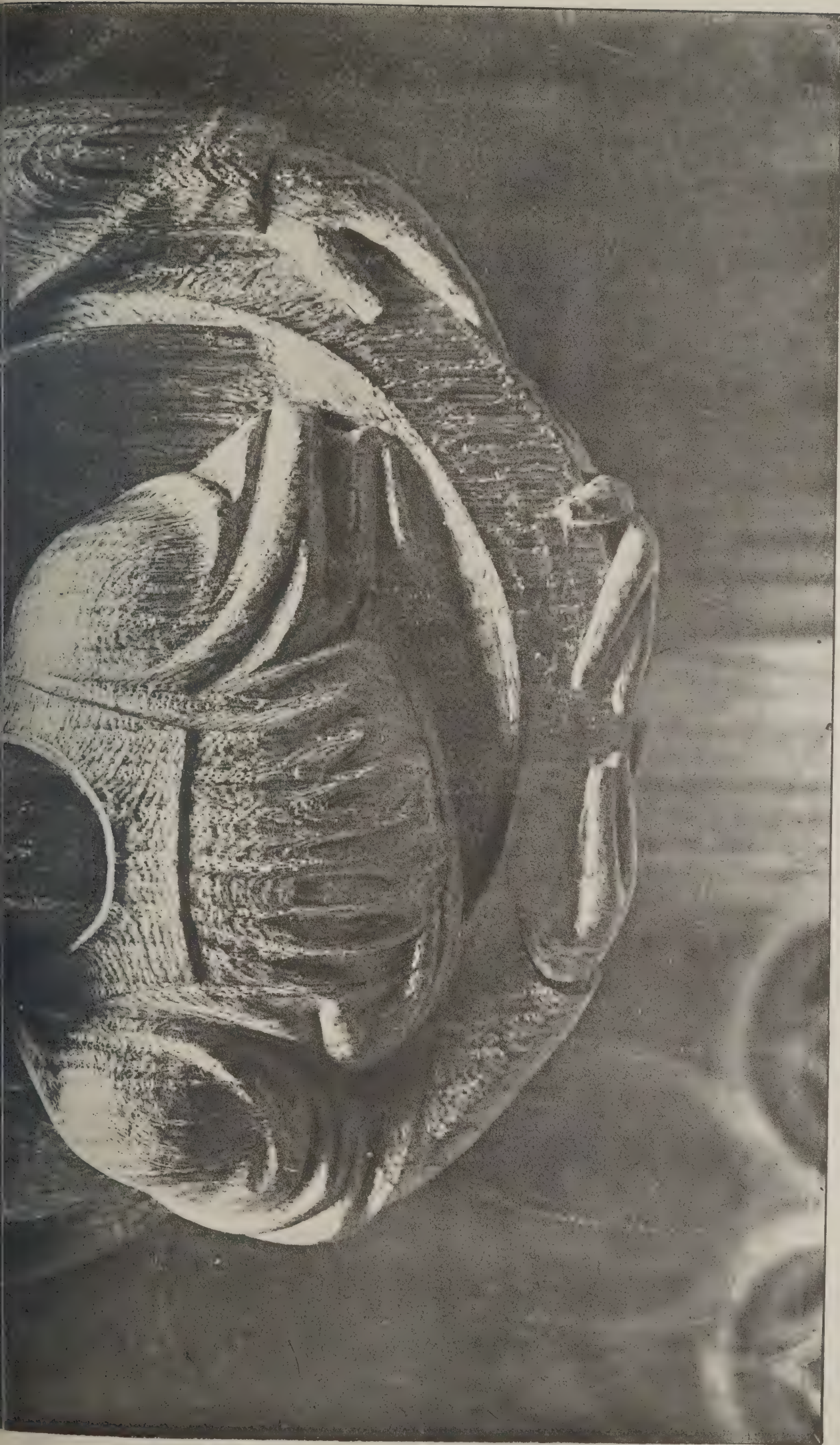
The R.I.B.A. Regulations for the Conduct of Competitions.

We are not greatly interested in the new regulations for the conduct of architectural competitions, though some points may be better expressed than they were in the older form. But the great grievance and injustice remains—that is, that no machinery exists for revising or quashing an award which is not in accordance with the binding conditions laid down. Until such means are provided we consider that the assessor's award should not be final and binding and that it is an injustice to competitors and to public bodies to make it so. At present a very large proportion of bad awards are made—we should put the proportion at least as high as 30 per cent. of the whole. The Institute have had control of the conduct of competitions for years and have not exercised their powers in the best interests of architects or of the public. Many architects have ceased to take part in competitions not because of a want of skill or inclination but simply because hard experience has taught them that competitions are little better than an open lottery. Possibly when the younger generation have burnt their fingers like their predecessors they too will wake up to the conviction that something is wrong. There is absolutely no reason why every wrong award should not be reversed and justice done in every case, but until this is effected it is best to regard architectural competitions as a lottery in which men are more likely to gain experience than to experience any satisfaction.

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THE ARCHITECT, MARCH 21st, 1924.





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DETAILS OF NEW OAK CHOIR STALLS. DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL.

SIR ROBERT LORIMER, A.R.A., ARCHITECT

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INK PHOTO: WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3

WATERLOO BRIDGE—SUMMER TWILIGHT.

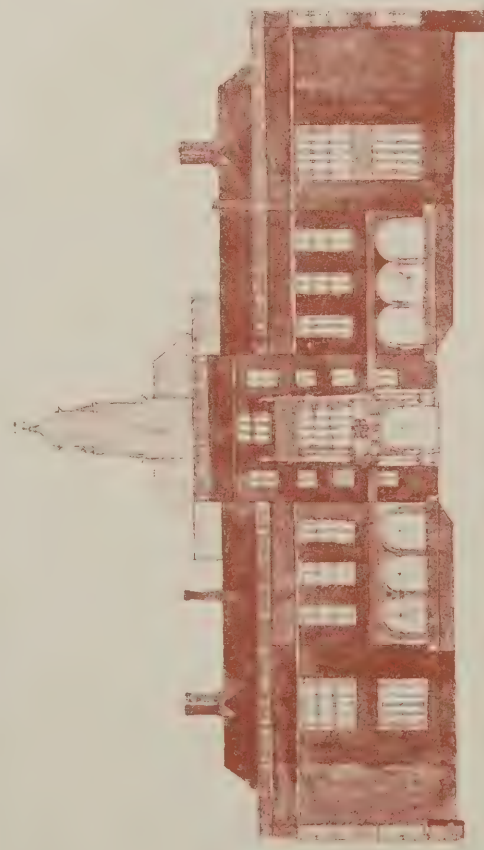
BY G. R. W. NEVINSON.

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THE ARCHITECT, MARCH 21st, 1924.

Sketch DESIGN for a GARDEN MANSION located between the ELIZABETHIAN Period and 16th Century. *de Montfort*



THE HERMITAGE



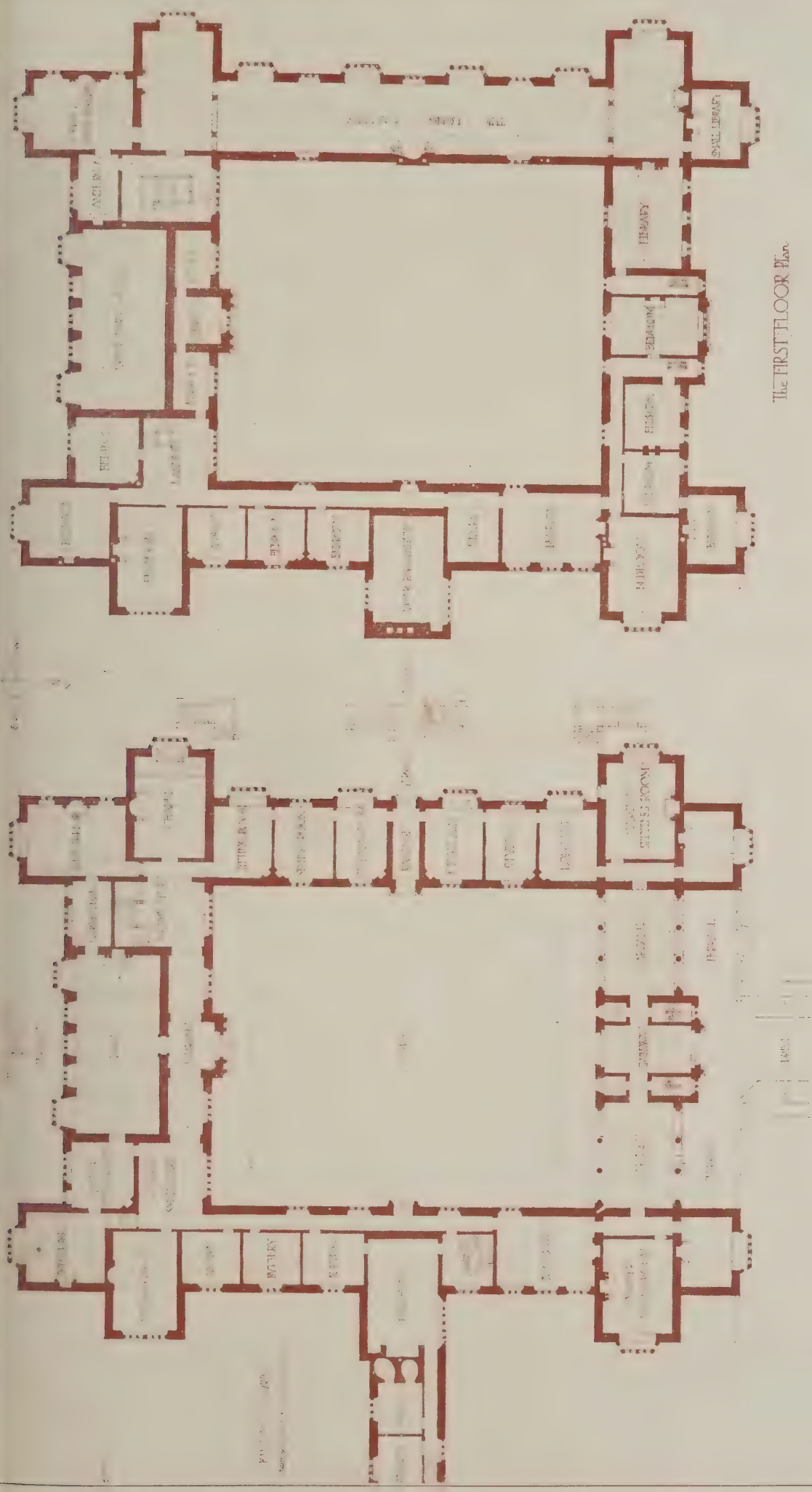
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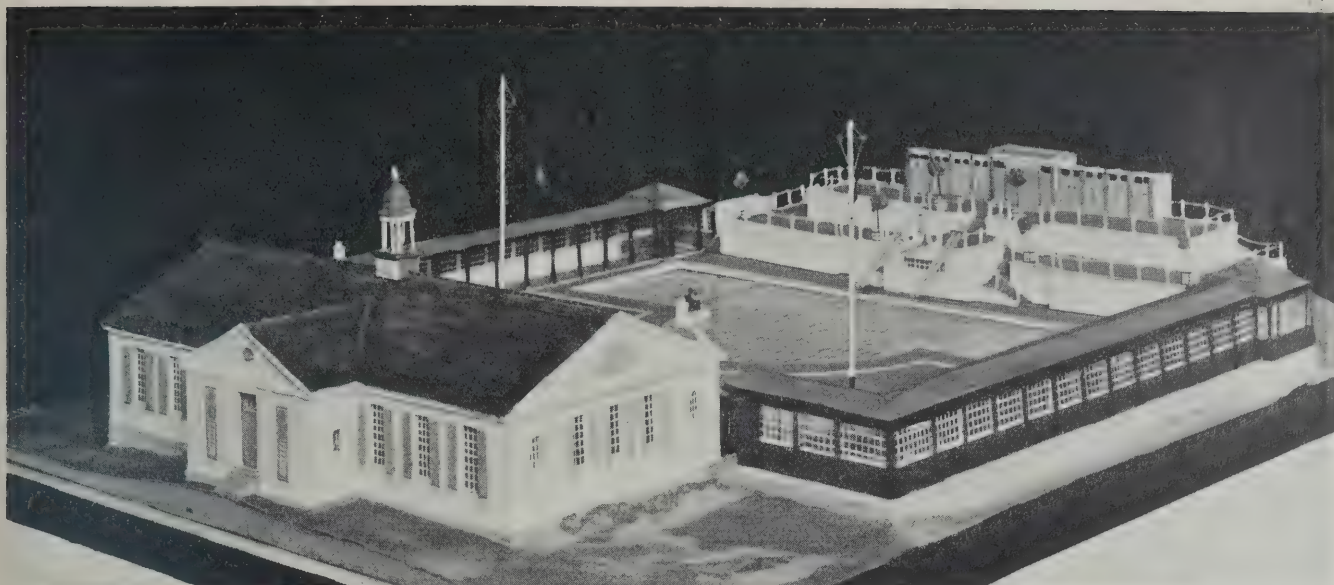
William T. Benslyn

"INK PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO LTD LONDON E.C.3

SKETCH DESIGN FOR A COUNTRY MANSION.

WILLIAM T. BENSLYN, ARCHITECT.

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MODEL OF THE PAVILION AND BATHING POOL, PRESTATYN, NORTH WALES. EASTON & ROBERTSON, Architects.
From the Architecture Club Exhibition, 1924.

Book Reviews.

Masters of Architecture Series: "Inigo Jones," by Stanley Ramsey; "Sir William Chambers," by Trvstan Edwards; and "Sir John Vanbrough," by Christian Barman. Messrs. Benn Bros. 10s. 6d. each net.

The first three volumes of the series of monographs of great architects projected by Messrs. Benn, under the general editorship of Mr. Stanley Ramsey, are now published.

The idea of this series is a good one, but its execution is in some respects disappointing. Naturally the value of the series largely depends on the quality of the illustrations given,

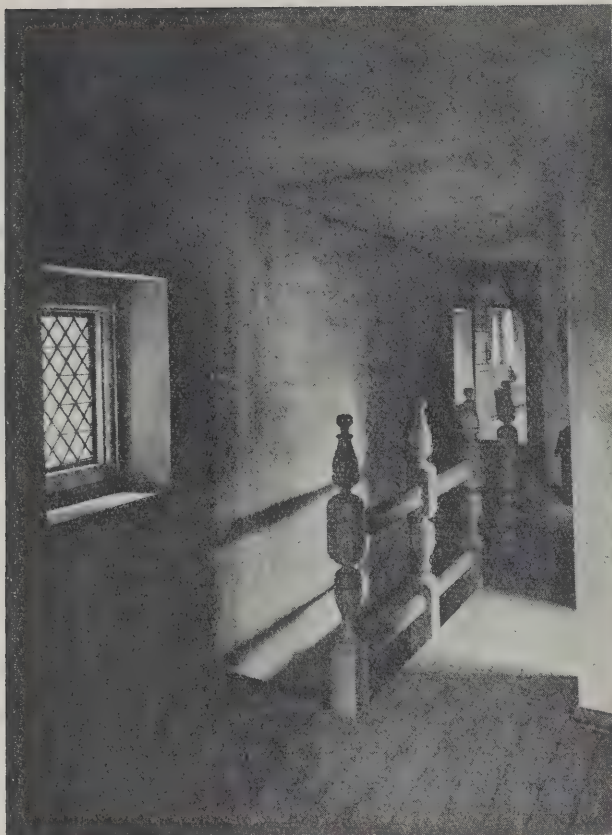
and these are in many cases disappointing because photographs have been taken under unfortunate conditions of light.

The difficulty is a very great one, especially in London. One might have to go over and over again to photograph a building only to find the conditions adverse and such visits would be both expensive and troublesome. One of the best sets of photographs ever taken in London are those from which Birch's City Churches are illustrated, and we believe that an immense number of photographs were rejected before an adequate selection could be made.

It would have been also better to include in the monographs small scale plans of buildings like Somerset House, Blenheim



NO. 29 BRYANSTON SQUARE. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects. From the Architecture Club Exhibition, 1924.



LONG CRENDON MANOR, BUCKS.
THE GATEHOUSE STAIRS.
PHILIP TILDEN, Architect.

and Castle Howard, which would be suitably placed in the text together perhaps with reproductions of some of the line elevations available.

The text matter consists of a short essay in each case, and if a comparison is possible we should be inclined to say that of Mr. Christian Barman on Vanbrough is the best written of those before us.

It is always exceedingly difficult to imagine what might have been designed by any architect had opportunity offered, and in no case is this more difficult than in the case of Inigo Jones. The Banqueting Hall in Whitehall is unquestionably the finest example of English Renaissance detail we have, but we have often wondered whether, if the whole palace had been carried out by Inigo Jones on the lines he laid down, the conception would not have been wanting in the dramatic interest and impressiveness of which Wren was a master. The one architect was, through force of circumstances, a splendid enigma, while Wren's achievements and faults are stamped on an immense variety of actual buildings.

It is well for us that Chambers had his great opportunity in the design of Somerset House, for he shows himself greater in this than in his smaller works, while his book on Architecture suggests the character of a somewhat narrow-minded architectural autocrat.

A comparison between the Parentalia of Wren and Chambers' work gives a measure of the greater formalism and mannerism which had crept over the architectural outlook, a formalism which was to be still more sharply defined in the opening decades of the 19th century.

We should sum up by saying this series of little books is well conceived, but that future volumes might be improved by a greater attention to some of the points we have referred to.

The Hendon Urban District Council passed the plans for 13 houses in Gresham Gardens, Golders Green, two houses in Millway, four in Tenterden Grove, four houses in Rundell Crescent, ten houses in Alderton Crescent, four houses in Llanvanor Road, two in Mayfield Gardens, two in Shirehall Gardens, and two in Finchley Road.



WATER GARDEN, HAYLING. P. D. HEPWORTH & G. G. WORNUM, Architects. From The Architecture Club Exhibition.



WINCHENDON PRIORY. PHILIP TILDEN, Architect. From The Architecture Club Exhibition.

The Light Within.

BY DUDLEY HARBON.

It is complained by artists that the people are not interested in art. Has not one of their leaders asserted with gusto, that the proletariat are insensible to all æsthetic appeal? That either of these propositions should contain an element of truth, which it must be acknowledged they do, is a matter worth investigation.

Very many influences have formed the immediate view. Some of them, as the substitute of machinery for hand-work, quite outside the control of artists, though largely realised by them; but others, realistic thought, and more particularly the recovery of the classic tradition by the Renaissance, were in a great measure the work of artists.

Unfortunately they did not foresee the full implication of the philosophy which they embraced. We ourselves are only now reluctantly beginning to realise its consequences.

The artist became a man apart. But the more serious perils were contained in the acceptance of the classic view of beauty. The Greeks apprehended beauty as external, something to be sought after and caught: yet the Greeks are gone. The Renaissance swallowed the camel whole. It has resulted equally in stagnation—except in such cases as the spirit has broken the letter.

Thus the Renaissance idea is now in turn visibly giving place to a different conception of art. But the public remain in ignorance of the reformation, although the reversal is not without its mentors in every field. Croce in æsthetics. Bergson in philosophy. Gentile in education. The gist of their cry: The artist impulse is within. It is subject not object. It is always becoming or dead. The æsthetic impulse not inherent.

The artist is he who cannot refrain from expression. Here and there there have always been such who though beyond the comprehension of their contemporaries have yet kept the lamp burning. But genius does not compensate for the loss that mankind has suffered in the interim.

The scholastic monopoly of judgment has frightened the man in the street. His opinion has not been consulted or regarded for four hundred years. It has been guessed. Yet he is not unappreciative, when there is something to

appreciate: for the simple have never been misled by the appearances that have earned the applause of the sophisticated.

The dispossessed were first too tired to remark that any instinct had been thwarted in them that had always previously been exercised. Now that the darkest hour is past they are suspicious of that which they have been taught to regard as an appanage of riches, so that they are unable without bias to respond to the æsthetic appeal.

Such is the momentary situation. But art is coming to the people. It seeks to find a common meeting ground. In so seeking it is certain ultimately to awaken a responsive chord in the sound heart of the masses. The accord will redound to the benefit of art and life. The unity which both seek can only be found in association.

That day is not yet here. There are still thousands thronging the wrong road; hastening toward inevitable disabuse. But the way out has been re-discovered. There are voices calling. Hands pointing in the direction in which change is to be attained without sterility.

Still there are pessimists who cry that the discovery is too late, that the crowd must continue on their course to destruction. Such a conclusion is a misreading of the history of human progress and destiny. Those artists who are loudest in proclaiming the indifference of the public indicate by their conversation that they deem the public unduly sensitive. How do they mitigate their work. They blame public taste. They cannot have it both ways. They cannot accuse the public of apathy if they have always one eye on their supposed susceptibilities.

The public are interested but not educated. That is no serious disability. They can educate themselves if they trust their intuitions and suspect their prepossessions. Only by their self-education can we be sure that spontaneity will not be sacrificed, unity attained. It is the function of education to teach us to think. To encourage us to think. Only through thought does art or anything else become. We seek harmony. We seek to reduce discord to harmony. The poise, the balance, the power to select lies within each of us. It is not external except as things. It is the confident recognition of their intuitions that both artist and public lack.

It is not contended that this view of art places the public easily upon a pedestal from which they can dictate to artists. All it does is to put the footsteps of the people upon the same path as that which the creative artist must tread. Instead of—as has been the case in the immediate past—leaving the layman aimlessly wandering about in the wood selecting his favourite tree. Indeed, so journeying, he will gain by reflection, understanding of, and appreciation for art. Replace the thoughtless preferences—which issue in affected appreciation, when anything at all issues—by a glimmer of real perception, that if protected will ultimately shed a clear light. For the faculty only awaits exercise to grow in power. Nor does it need any external influence for its guidance, rather does it require the rigid exclusion of such.

In conclusion. It has been objected that the people never have been deeply concerned about art, save in the dim past and the generous Gothic. It has been stated that great historical bursts of expression were not backed by conscious public enthusiasm. But though it may be true of many previous epochs such conclusion is by no means final. For, if civilisation is to assume a shape worthy of perpetuation it cannot persist in a condition of unstable equilibrium but must perish as those of the past perished.

History does not repeat itself. But mankind thwarted of his destiny to become, turns and rends those ideas that he believes to be obstacles to becoming. Though finality be in eternity, though human frailty erects its own barriers, civilization will have failed to evoke the complete man if it cannot incorporate in his activities the appreciation of the beautiful; further the eternal quest for its uncovering.

Registration of Electrical Contractors.

The launching of the National Register of Electrical Installation Contractors is a matter of importance to several large sections of the industry and to the public.

In the course of their deliberations on the revision of the Wiring Rules of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the Wiring Rules Committee were faced with the problem of the attainment of a proper standard of wiring practice in the absence of any powers of compulsion, and the meeting together of representative of so many interests afforded a useful opportunity of discussing this problem.

The pros and cons of compulsory Wiring Rules were fully examined, and it was found that, even though the difficulties in obtaining compulsory powers could be overcome, there was by no means unanimity as to the advantages of compulsion.

The compulsory registration of electrical installation contractors was also considered, and to this again serious objection could be seen. It was quite clear that the majority of contractors were desirous of carrying out work on sound principles, and it was felt that if some means could be found of eliminating the very small minority of ignorant contractors whose work tends to bring the entire contracting industry into disrepute a tremendous step forward in the desired direction would be attained. The simplest and most effectual means available appeared to be the foundation of a body for the voluntary registration of contractors under the title of the National Register of Electrical Installation Contractors, and the licence of the Board of Trade which has been obtained has enabled it to become incorporated as an Association not for profit, but with limited liability and liberty to drop the word "limited" from its title.

The first members who compose the Council, or, as they are termed, "The Registration Board," are as follows:—

P. V. Hunter, C.B.E., W. R. Rawlings, W. M. Selvey, C. H. Wordingham, C.B.E. (chairman), nominated by the Institution of Electrical Engineers. Nominated by the Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association: S. E. Britton, E. Calvert, F. W. Purse, Lt.-Col. W. A. Vignoles. Nominated by the Electrical Contractors' Association: H. J. Cash, W. Cross, W. A. Shaw, W. H. Walton. Nominated by the Electrical Contractors' Association of Scotland: Alexander Lindsay, D. S. Munro, A. B. Robertson, junr. Nominated by the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association: A. E. Iliffe, H. W. Roberts. Nominated by the Association of Consulting Engineers: H. R. J. Burstall, A. H. Dykes. Nominated by the Electrical Wholesalers' Federation: W. Harrison, P. M. Millns. Nominated by the Royal Institute of British Architects: Max Clarke, A. E. Munby. Nominated by the Irish Centre of

Institution of Electrical Engineers: A. G. Bruty, F. G. Sherwood.

Provision is made under the Articles of Association for adding nominees of other interested bodies who may wish to be represented on the Council, and already application has been made to that end.

The dominant objects as expressed in the Memorandum of Association are:—

(a) To afford to the public the means of distinguishing Electrical Installation Contractors who shall have given evidence of their competency, and undertaken the responsibility required by the conditions of registration under the powers contained therein.

(b) To raise the efficiency and status of Electrical Installation Contractors as a body in a manner consistent with the importance of their occupation, and in connection with the application and use of electricity for any purpose.

(c) For the foregoing purposes to set up, issue and maintain a Register for Great Britain, the Irish Free State, and Northern Ireland of Electrical Installation Contractors qualified for registration under the rules and regulations for the time being of the Association, and to issue certificates of registration thereunder.

The Registration Board have appointed ten of their members as an Executive Committee to whom they have delegated certain executive powers. It is desired to open the door as wide as a reasonable discrimination makes possible, admitting every contractor, whether working on a small or large scale, who is able to carry out electrical installation work on reasonably safe and sound lines. Inasmuch as all certificates of registration have to be renewed yearly, it is felt that it will be much safer in the interests of all concerned to run the risk of such discrimination being at fault and admitting a few individuals or firms who are subsequently found to be unsuitable, and whose certificates will not be renewed, rather than to shut out any who might have carried out satisfactory work. It is not proposed to institute fresh rules or regulations, or in any way to set restrictions on the freedom of legitimate wiring business, nor in any way to increase the cost of electrical installation work. Registered contractors will not be hampered by inspections or vexatious red tape, and only in the event of a complaint against a registered contractor, for which, on *prima facie* evidence, there is good ground, will an investigation be made by the Executive. Such investigations, however, will be thorough and impartial, and should prove effectual in eliminating unfit or undesirable contractors, and debarring them from the benefits of registration. It is confidently hoped that the foundation of this National Register will promote the interests alike of electrical installation contractors, electricity supply authorities, whether municipal or company, and the public generally, and at the same time further the spread of the use of electric light and electrical appliances by giving the public greater confidence in those who carry out work on consumers' premises.

The South Shields Rural District Council Housing Committee have passed the plans for 13 houses in Adolphus Terrace, Whitburn; two houses on the West Boldon Hall Estate, West Boldon; two bungalows in West Meadows Road, Cleadon; six houses in St. Mary's Terrace, East Boldon; six houses in Burnham Grove and Hawthorn Grove, East Boldon; fifteen houses on the Whiteleas building estate; and 150 houses in Boldon Lane.

The Bolton Town Council passed the plans for a considerable number of houses: four in Holden Avenue; one in Church Road; three in Abbotsford Road, one in New Church Road, one in St. Michael's Avenue, another in Green Lane, ten in Alexander Road, six in Regent Road, four in Withins Lane, ten in Roland Road, two bungalows in Wheatfield Street.

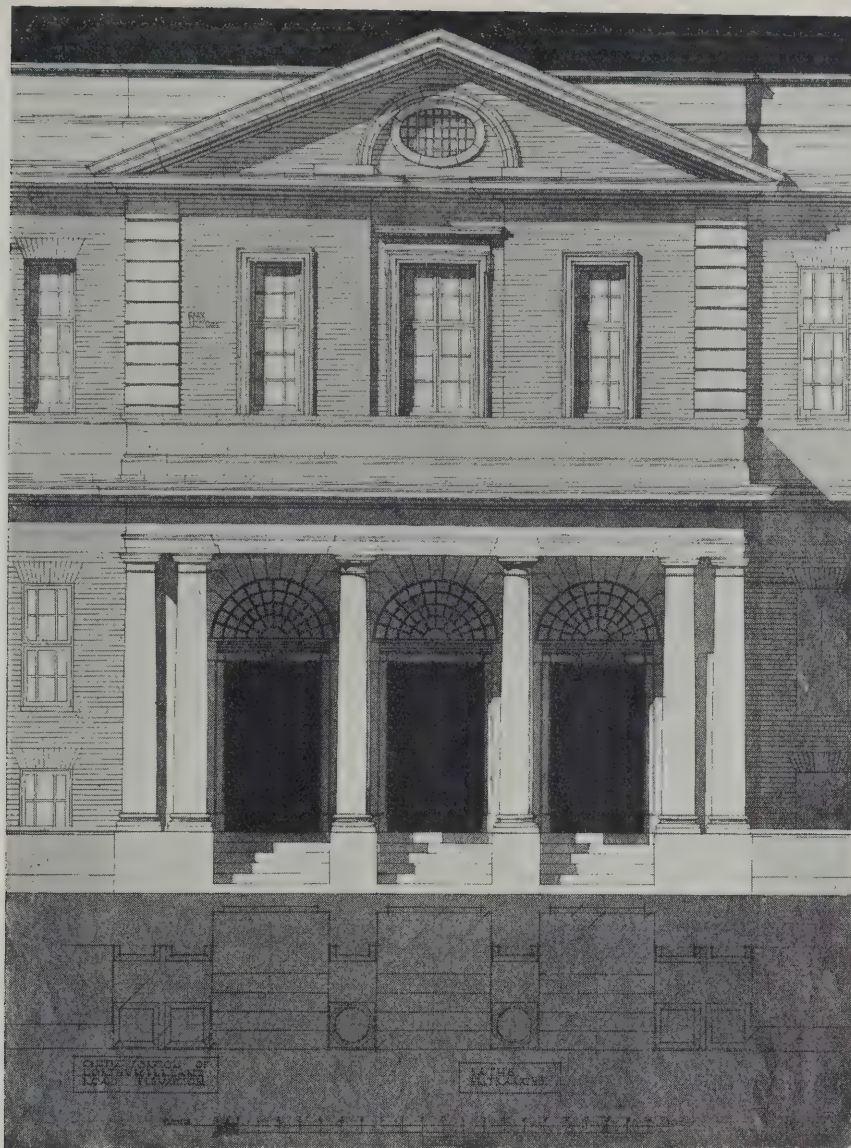
Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., structural engineers, are erecting 50 houses at Bowburn. The Durham Rural District Council have passed the necessary plans.

The Croydon Town Council passed the following housing plans: twelve in Stanford Road, seven in Waddon Road, two on Pollards Hill South, six in Morland Road, ten in Grecian Crescent, eighteen in Mayfield Crescent, twelve in Livingstone Road, seven in Totton Road, twelve in Limpsfield Avenue, twenty-four houses, twenty-three of which are planned with garages, in The Chase, Norbury. The twelve in Limpsfield Avenue have been designed by Messrs. Young & Macintosh, architects.

The Edmonton Urban District Council passed the plans for 50 houses in Village Road, Bush Hill Park. A layout plan for the accommodation of 250 houses in Park Avenue and Village Road was also approved by the Council.

The Stockton Rural District Council passed the plans for sixteen houses to be erected in Egglecliffe Village.

Newcastle Concert Hall and Pavilion Competition.



DESIGN PLACED FIRST, MESSRS. DIXON, SPAIN & NICHOLAS, Architects.

Extracts from the Assessor's Report upon the Forty-one Designs submitted in Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Baths and Concert Hall Competition.

As the result of an exhaustive examination of each of the forty-one designs submitted in this competition (Mr. Cross gave an analysis of every design submitted) I formed the opinion that the best possible solution of the problem would be found in the type of lay-out adopted, with varying degrees of success, by a large majority of the competitors, under which the long axis of the Women's Swimming Bath Hall was made to coincide with the centre of the principal elevation to Northumberland Road.

Under this system of planning a more or less symmetrical balance is obtainable to the east and west of the site by means of the two larger blocks of departmental buildings comprising the Concert Hall and the Men's Swimming Bath.

This type of planning is shown in the following designs, in some of which its advantages are readily seen:—

Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40.

And from these I have selected the following designs to the authors of which I award the premiums as follows:—

1st Premium (£750) to the author of Design No. 20.

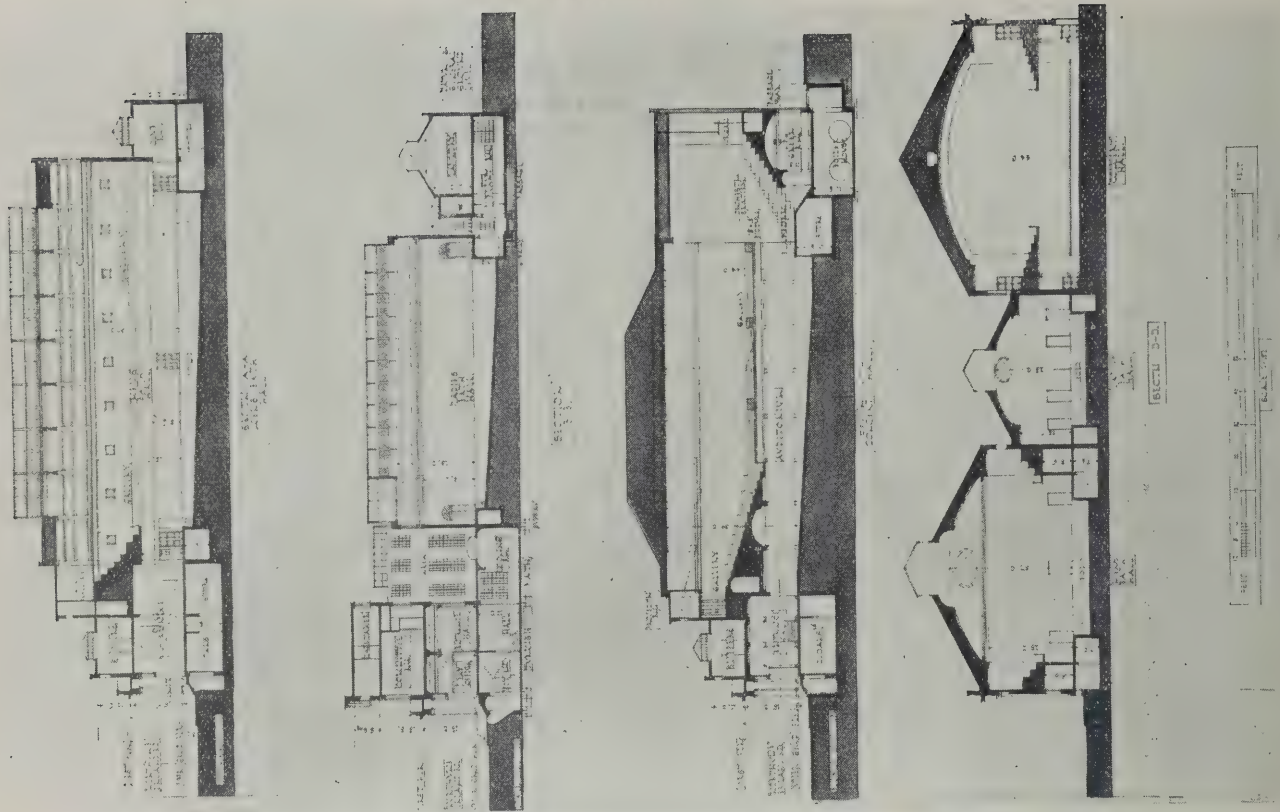
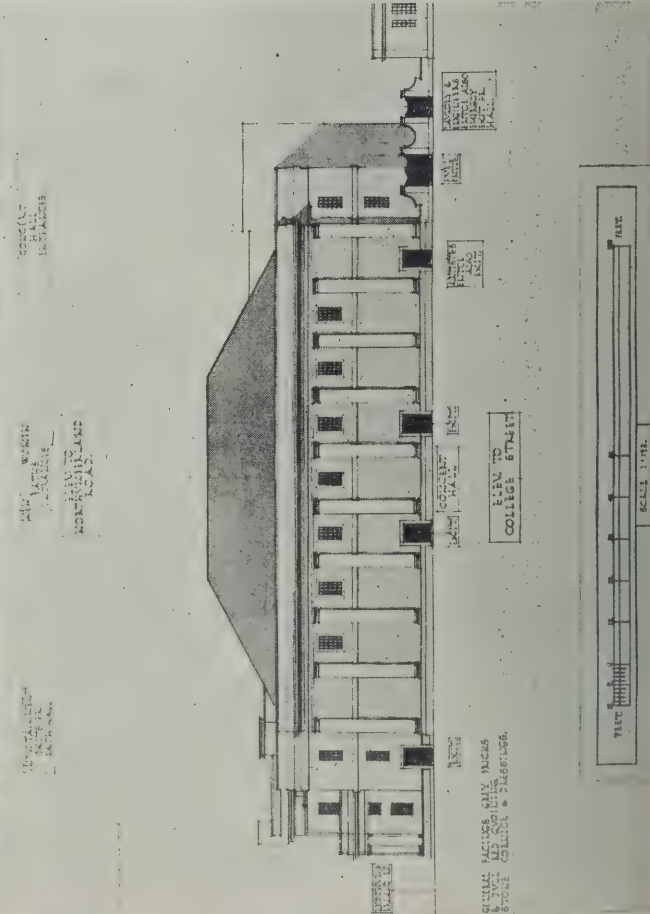
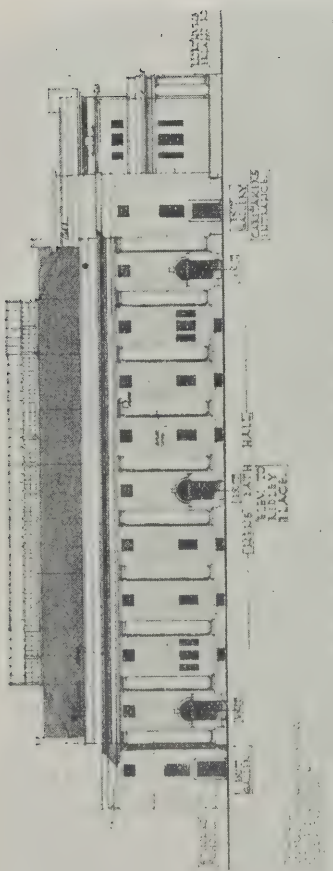
2nd Premium (£250) to the author of Design No. 17.

3rd Premium (£100) to the author of Design No. 15.

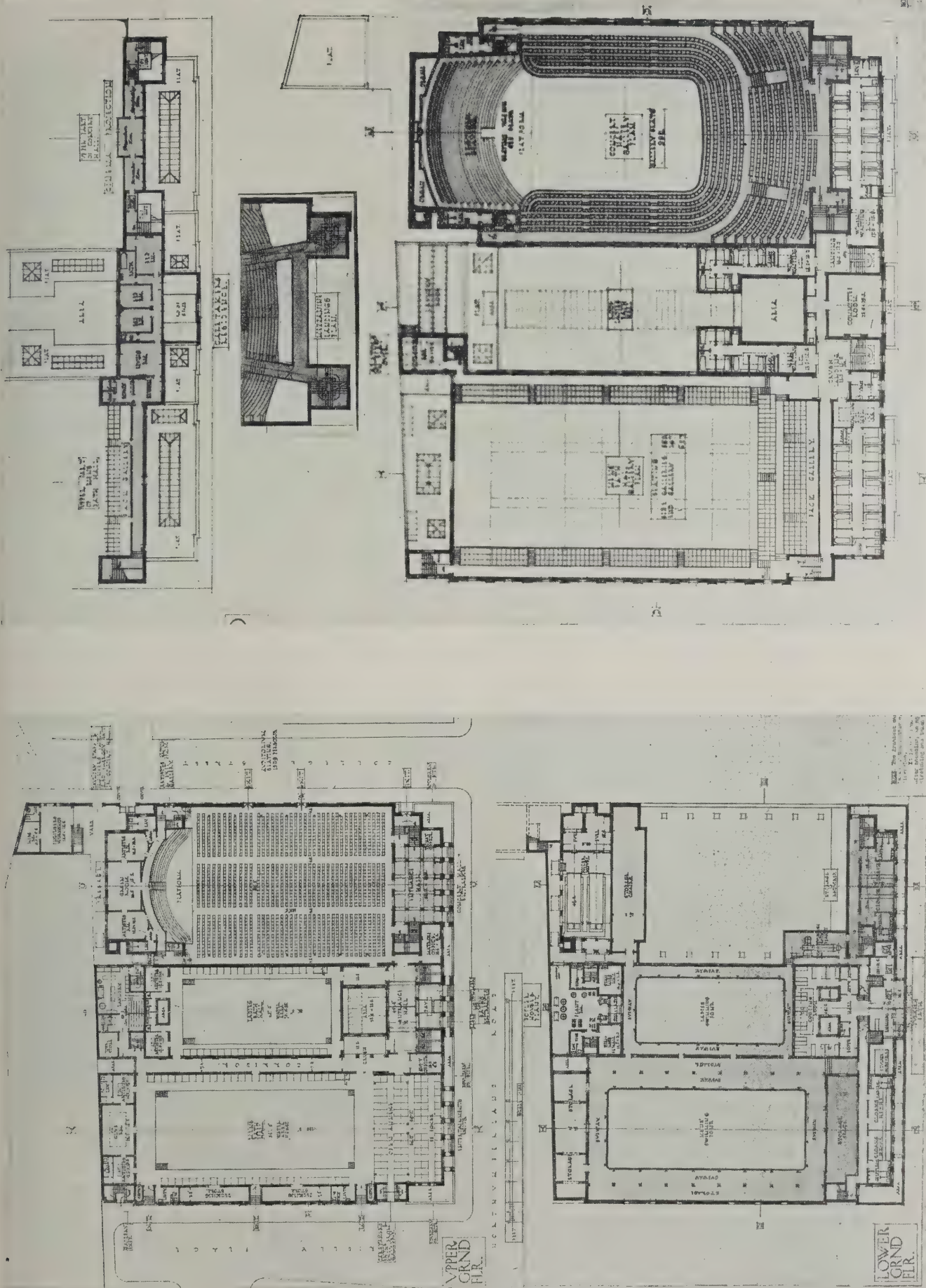
In addition, the authors of the following designs are highly commended for the excellence of their work, viz.:—Nos. 9 and 10 (equal in merit), 14, 23, 32, 37, 33, 34 and 40. With regard to the successful design (No. 20), I think it is likely that the licensing authorities will require the addition of at least one other transverse gangway or passage between the public seating provided in the body of the Concert Hall. The emergency

exits from this hall appear to be adequate, the gallery staircases are well placed and the Green Room and other accommodation provided for the artistes sufficiently spacious and otherwise suitable. But I regard the Public Cloak Room accommodation as being altogether inadequate for the number of persons it is intended to serve, and in my opinion this department should be replanned and considerably extended. I estimate the cost of Design No. 20, including the engineering equipment, heating, etc., at £158,000.

As to the second premiated design (No. 17), the cost of which I estimate at £160,000, no side emergency exits are shown from the Concert Hall to the public footway in College Street, and probably these would have to be added in addition to two transverse gangways or passages to isolate the seating into three groups. And, as in the case of the last design, the public cloak room accommodation provided appears to be altogether insufficient for its purpose. By reducing the excessive floor areas of the Hot Rooms of the Turkish Bath in the lower ground floor and by a corresponding reduction in the storage space under the Men's Swimming Bath Entrance Hall, ample public cloak rooms would be obtainable. The service of towels from the establishment laundry placed north of the small central bath hall and the ticket office can only be carried out efficiently by using the Bath Hall as a passage way, and in this respect the separate service corridor provided by the author of No. 20 is much to be preferred. On the other hand, the author of the third premiated design (No. 15), my estimate of the cost of which is £155,000, has provided very spacious and altogether adequate public cloak room accommodation and has also successfully dealt with the question of the ready service of towels between the laundry and the ticket office. But although side emergency exits from the Concert Hall to the public footway are provided



DESIGN PLACED FIRST FOR THE NEWCASTLE-ONTYNE CONCERT HALL AND PAVILION COMPETITION. MESSRS. DIXON, SPAIN & NICHOLAS, ARCHITECTS.



DESIGN PLACED FIRST FOR THE NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE CONCERT HALL AND PAVILION COMPETITION. MESSRS. DIXON, SPAIN & NICHOLAS, ARCHITECTS.

Assessor's Report, continued from page 199.

owing to the lack of cross-gangways between the seating these exits are not so readily accessible by the public in case of panic as they should be. Nor is the Turkish Bath particularly well placed in relation to the baths entrances for men and women respectively. And, although perhaps not absolutely essential, it is at least desirable that some amount of natural light and ventilation should be obtainable in the Cooling Room of a Turkish Bath. Indeed, if it were not for this mistake in the planning of an important branch of the baths establishment, added to the fact that in my opinion the elevations are not of a sufficiently monumental character to result in a dignified façade, this design, which is beautifully laid out and generally presents a masterly example of good planning, might possibly have secured a higher place in the competition.

ALFRED W. S. CROSS,

ASSESSOR.

Legal Note.

In the King's Bench Division on Monday, March 17th, Mr. Justice Rowlatt gave judgment for £675 and costs in favour of Mr. Frank Harold Bromhead, architect, of Hallcroft Road, East Retford, Notts, who sued the Kirbymoorside R.D.C. in respect of work done in connection with a housing scheme which was afterwards abandoned.

Plaintiff's case was that he was employed on the scheme drawing plans and preparing quantities from July, 1919, until January, 1922. After the scheme had been abandoned the council by a resolution made an offer in settlement of the plaintiff's claim, but the Ministry of Health declined to finance them in the offer and nothing came of it. Plaintiff now claimed over £900.

The council had paid £336 into court as a sum sufficient to meet the claim, but in the circumstances contended that they were not liable to pay anything at all. They said that under the contract of employment there was no promise to pay unless the scheme was completed and approved by the Ministry of Health.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, observed that the work was done at the request of the defendants by a professional man whose time was his livelihood. It was never communicated to the plaintiff that payment would be limited to a basis of "houses erected," and his lordship did not think he ought to interpret the words "houses erected" in a way which would make the plaintiff work for 18 months for nothing. The broad justice of the case was that the plaintiff would have to be paid something for the work which he had done. Housing was a national matter when the scheme was started. Everyone was anxious that the work should be pushed on, and in the circumstances he thought the proper sum to award was £675.

Sliding Doors in Cottages.

Replying to questions at this week's meeting of the London County Council, Mr. Edwin Evans, Vice-chairman of the Housing Committee, said there was no intention of providing sliding doors to the rooms of cottages erected on the Council's estates. Unless a casing were provided, he continued, the sliding door prevented the placing of furniture against that part of the wall which would be occupied by the open door. Apart from the fact that the casing would involve extra expense, doors of this type were in themselves more costly than ordinary doors. The Committee considered they would be unsuitable for houses on the Council's estates and less convenient than ordinary doors.

After receiving a deputation from the Woolwich Borough Council and the local Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the proposed conversion of the mansion at Castle Wood, Shooter's Hill, into a public museum and art gallery, the L.C.C. has reiterated its inability to entertain the proposal. Apart from the question of cost, the site is, in the opinion of the Council, inconveniently situated.

The Aberdeen Corporation passed the plans for two houses in Hanmerfield Avenue, both of which were prepared by Mr. S. B. Russell, architect.

The Glasgow Dean of Guild Court passed the plans for 276 tenement houses of three and four apartments each. The total cost of this building programme is estimated at £123,831.

The Edinburgh Corporation are to undertake extensive house building operations on the Lochend Estate. Eight hundred three-apartment houses have been mentioned in this connection.

The Town Council of Kirkintilloch proposes to close a number of houses in a slum area and erect 100 new dwellings to accommodate the tenants who formerly lived in the slum district.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MARCH 21, 1874.

CIVIL ARCHITECTS.

SIR,—I was much pleased by the article in your issue of the 7th inst., entitled "Occasional Notes," and think the suggestion it contained deserves the unanimous support of those who have the best interests of the profession at heart. I was rather surprised to find by the last issue that it had not as yet received any public notice from the more prominent members of the profession, but think before long its value must be appreciated.

The title C.A. would be, as you observe, singularly appropriate, and so much more preferable to the A. and F.R.I.B.A., which, from being so clumsy, is so seldom used, that, generally speaking, of the meaning of it those outside the pale of the profession know as little as they do of the Papers that are read before the Institute itself. With regard to the other titles, such as R.A., M.A., B.A., F.S.A., etc., borne by some of our most distinguished architects, etc., and without in the slightest degree depreciating their value, we may say they are open to the great objection of being as frequently borne by private gentlemen, and members of other professions, and consequently cannot be applied with that distinctive force and meaning as relating to a particular profession, such as the C.E. of the engineers.

The civil engineers being thoroughly practical and acting with their characteristic unanimity wisely adopted one short convenient title, as "their own" exclusively, and this has been so generally established, that on its appearance in type or elsewhere its meaning is at once unmistakably understood by any educated or business person.

Cannot our civil architects do likewise by adopting the title C.A. as suggested? which is equally as short, clear, distinctive, and, I hope, practicable. A proper qualification should of course be insisted upon, and a certificate conferring the title given by some Institution holding a legal and recognised position.

The representative bodies, the Institute or the Association, are the proper parties to take the matter in hand, and would evidently do a great service to the profession if they brought it successfully through.

Your obedient servant,

Carne, St. Blazey, Cornwall,
March 16, 1874.

SILVANUS TREVAIL.

State Housing.

In a paper we give in another part of this issue, by Major Barnes, the writer wishes everybody to realise that the lower-paid working man's house cannot be built by private enterprise and that it would be far better to create a public service which would provide these houses out of State funds. The subject would be quite simple to deal with if it was merely a matter of supplying money and organising a public service, but the question strikes at the whole social status of the community. To-day it is of personal advantage to be thrifty, to work, and to live a clean honest life. Education to-day instills in the minds of the people a sense of personal responsibility, proper judgment and self-control. A certain position in life is necessary in the opinion of the great majority of young people before matrimonial responsibilities are undertaken. Many men and women of education have through this sense of responsibility remained unmarried. If, therefore, homes are provided out of the State funds for workers who do not earn more than a given sum, a great incentive to advancement will be removed from the community. It will, under certain circumstances, be more profitable to the individual to remain a lower-paid worker. Family responsibilities will be undertaken with far less thought and anxiety than to-day if State homes are provided. We may very possibly see the individual who takes the dole living in a State-provided home.

Larkhill Estate, Liverpool, will soon be the scene of considerable building activity. The Corporation is to apply to the Ministry of Health for permission to borrow £22,500 for the erection of 50 houses.

A Masonic Temple is to be erected in Broad Street, Birmingham, by Warwickshire Freemasons as a war memorial. Building operations are to be started shortly. The estimated cost of the new building is given at £72,000. We hope that building will be planned and carried out by an architect who is also a member of the Craft. Too often the contrary is the case, which in our opinion is a matter of some regret.

Should unification take place we suppose the Society of Architects' Lodge will still retain its original title.

A recommendation by the Education Committee is before the Smethwick Council in connection with the erection of an open-air school on a site at Hales Lane.

National Housing and a National Municipal House-Building Service.

By Major Harry Barnes, Vice-President R.I.B.A.

Introductory.

The catholicity of the Royal Institute of British Architects is in nothing better illustrated than in the freedom it gives to the expression of opinion, however heterodox, in respect of buildings—their height, their construction, their position, and in my case their provision. None of our members or visitors to-night will be so misled by this tolerance, I am sure, as to imagine that the opinions to which they are about to listen are other than personal.

PART I.

THE STANDARD OF HOUSING.

Let me begin by saying that there is no housing problem—if there is no housing standard.

Everybody is housed in some sort of fashion, and if the fashion doesn't matter there's an end on't.

The law in one of its more or less asinine moods has decreed that we must sleep under some shelter, and if that is not provided by ourselves it has taken steps to secure that it is thoughtfully provided for us at the public expense.

Let me reverse my axiom and say—that where there is no housing standard there is no housing problem.

But a housing standard we have, and it will be interesting and perhaps useful to see how we have become burdened by it.

It required the union of the fear produced by the ravages of epidemics with the administrative powers secured by the reform of municipal and Imperial government under the Municipal Reform Act of 1835 and the Reform Bill of 1832 before a housing standard could be conceived, and we were thereby committed, if not to a housing standard, at all events to a town standard involving well paved roads, well constructed sewers, and a sufficient water supply.

This town standard of public health is the first element in the cost of house building, and a not inconsiderable element. Roads and sewers as apart from land and buildings involve an addition to the cost of erecting a house under a housing scheme of sums from £50 to £60. The first proposition I offer for debate is, therefore, this: That, subject to wise economies in design and construction, adequate and well constructed roads and sewers with a sufficient water supply are essential parts of a housing standard.

Up to the present, in our history of this standard, the Englishman's Castle is inviolate. The City Engineer, the District Surveyor, the Medical Officer, the Sanitary Inspector, are all on the public side of the gate, and on the private side a man might still, despite the Act of 1667, do much as he liked with his own.

We have seen that the law, aided no doubt by climatic conditions, made it undesirable to sleep out of doors, but the matter does not end there. Indoors we are not free of a law which insists that the bedroom we occupy shall contain a minimum number of cubic feet.

Two room standards have in fact been set up. The first that not more than two people shall occupy a room, and the second that for each person there shall be provided 400 cubic feet of space, from which even the limited mathematical capacity we architects possess may easily deduce that a bedroom occupied by two persons, if it is eight feet in height, must have a floor area of 100 square feet.

Presumably this capacity has been determined by physiological considerations, and at all events it is sufficiently well established as a standard. True it is that in fact this standard is not insisted on in existing buildings, and also that it is definitely proposed to reduce it during the present period of house shortage from 400 to 300 cubic feet, but I do not understand that any proposal has been made to reduce it in the construction of new buildings.

Let it be observed that this regulation is not based on any sentimental consideration, but on the fact that certain pulmonary and contagious diseases are regarded as arising from an insufficient supply of pure air.

Here, then, is standardised a minimum size of bedroom, but there is still to consider the number of such rooms that should be provided in a house.

That for every family consisting of parents and children of both sexes above, say, twelve years of age, three bedrooms must be provided.

Forced to this standard of number and size of bedrooms, what about the living room? What are to be its uses? What is to be its size?

Without further argument let me say:—

There must be a living room, and it must be adequate in size, and it must not be used as a wash-house or a storage place for food or fuel, or so as to diminish the number of bedrooms that would otherwise be provided.

We can now sum these up in my second proposition, which I offer you for discussion, namely:

That the housing standard demands bedrooms of sufficient number to provide for the proper separation of the sexes, and of sufficient size to allow a minimum capacity of 400 cubic feet per person in occupation of them, a living room of adequate size with food and fuel stores, and the separate and exclusive use of a scullery, washhouse, water-closet and bathroom; or, in other words, that for the normal working-class family of parents and children of both sexes, the non-parlour house with three bedrooms is the minimum type of house that should be provided.

PART II.

THE COST OF HOUSING.

Only those who accept the standard need proceed with me. We have our troubles before us, and our only consolation will be that those who reject the standard will not escape. They too will have their troubles, if of a different kind. Some sacrifice they must make of health, decency, or comfort, and upon what altar we will leave them to decide.

Let us recognise at the outset that this standard is something which has never been obtained.

Before the war the better-paid skilled workers were getting something approaching it, but those below that grade were not getting it and never had got it.

The lower-paid worker, if he got a new house, which was rare, got one with much less accommodation than we are asking for, but in a vast number of cases he got no new house at all, but part only of one erected originally for a single family.

Let us further recognise that we are asking for something better at a time when everything is dearer.

These two things together mean that we have not merely doubled our difficulties, we have quadrupled them.

Put in another way, we are proposing in the future to give the lower-paid worker a better house than the higher-paid worker had before the war.

In cash that means that for families which were housed before the war at 4s. to 5s. a week, a standard is desired which there is little prospect of providing at less than 15s. a week, a rent utterly beyond the rent-paying capacity of the lower-paid workers.

We are in the case of such workers, then, in the dilemma that we must either reduce the standard, increase their incomes, or provide them with houses of the standard irrespective of their rent-paying capacity.

This brings us to our third hurdle, over which I wonder how many will follow me. It is this, that if we decide we cannot reduce the standard we must provide it irrespective of whether those for whom it is provided can pay for it or not.

The pace is growing hot, for it is clear that this proposition means that our housing standard is to be maintained even at a loss. That being so, we have said good-bye to private enterprise and committed ourselves to housing as a public service.

It is a painful dilemma, but it cannot be evaded. If we maintain the standard we abandon private enterprise. If we cling to private enterprise we abandon the standard. This housing standard and private enterprise are the two masters no man may serve, he must cleave to the one and despise the other.

Private enterprise works on profit, and where there is no profit private enterprise will not work.

Profit in house building is represented by the payment of remunerative rent; where there is no remunerative rent there is no profit, and where there is no profit there is no private enterprise.

That has been the position since the war; and despite all the efforts made to obscure it, it becomes increasingly manifest.

The Addison Scheme and the Chamberlain Scheme both recognise the fact and make provision for it by grants or guarantees.

To camouflage the situation, the term "aided private enterprise" has been invented to describe what is happening. By the application of doses of public money a certain number of builders are being stimulated to produce a certain number of houses within the limitation of area laid down in the 1923 Act.

To call this private enterprise is to take all meaning out of the

term. When a patient can only be kept alive by doses of oxygen, death is not far off.

Yes, but I hear someone say, the real thing that prevents private enterprise undertaking the provision of houses for the lower-paid workers is the Rent Restriction Act.

I am almost ashamed to deal with such a contention, it is so manifestly founded on ignorance.

In the first place, new houses are not subjected to Rent Restriction, and the people who own them are free to get whatever rent they can. In the next place, and I speak as a member of the last Rent Restriction Committee, there is no property owner of any authority that asserts the repeal of these Acts would increase rents so as to bridge the gap between existing rents and the remunerative rent required to secure the building of houses for the lower-paid workers.

If there is any real obstacle to the production of such houses by unaided private enterprise, it is the fact that municipal authorities are producing them, and letting them at unremunerative rents.

I do not know if there is any bold spirit here to-night who will move that unless such houses can be produced without loss they should cease to be produced at all. That is the heroic course that must be taken if the private builder is ever to find his way back into this part of the housing field. Who commends such a course? Who will say, Stop building houses at a loss? Repeal the Rent Restriction Act. Let rents go up, costs will come down, and the private builder will build something—God knows what—but at least something that will show a profit.

The truth is—and we know it, but our unconquerable aversion to facts and our incurable tendency to self-deception will not allow us to acknowledge it—that even in pre-war days the lower-paid workers were not housed by private enterprise up to any satisfactory standard, and that there is not the ghost of a chance of private enterprise providing for those workers in the future the higher standard which is now demanded.

The housing of the lower-paid workers must increasingly become the task of municipal authorities.

We are passing through a period of indecision and there is a reluctance to face the facts, but when once the municipalities are committed to an extended programme there will be no turning back. For good and all the housing of the lower-paid workers will have become as permanently a public service as their education.

I would not pass to the question as to how the houses are to be provided by municipal action without again driving home my contention that, however much we may shy at establishing another great public service, it is either that or abandoning the housing standard that has grown up.

PART III.

THE PROVISION OF HOUSING.

If I have carried any of you into this the third stage of my argument, there may be hope that some at least will accompany me to the end, which is not far out of sight.

I have, I hope, very definitely and clearly stated my view that the housing of the lower-paid workers must be a permanent public service, and hope I shall as clearly indicate the means by which I think it can be performed.

The first step is to dismiss entirely and for ever the idea that in their housing you have a task you can complete. Up to the present all housing programmes have been based on the idea that by a brief and intense application of collective activity, what is called the "shortage" can be made up, and then the task handed over to those of whom it is ignorantly said that they performed it before.

I dismiss in the most decisive manner such an idea: there is not only housing to be done to an unprecedented extent, of an unprecedented standard, but there is re-housing to do of an equally unprecedented amount.

There are 8,000,000 houses in the country to-day. What life will you give them? If it is anything less than 80 years it means that our replacements alone must be something more than 100,000 a year during that time.

We must further increase that number of 8,000,000 by at least 120,000 a year if we are to provide for the new families that come into being, and we shall then still have on our hands the problem of providing structurally separate dwellings for about 1,000,000 families for whom no such dwellings exist.

When a statesman of sufficient knowledge and courage comes, he will tell the people of this country that the price of a decent standard of housing is eternal construction. Till then politicians who know little about housing and pressmen who know less will go on pretending that a short pull and a strong pull and a pull all together will pull us through this problem.

The next step is to dismiss with equal decisiveness the idea that this year or next year or the year after it will be possible to carry through a housing programme of 200,000 houses a year without a fatal inflation in costs right throughout the building industry.

I very gravely question whether the utmost sanity and vigour could do more than build up sufficient resources within this decade to enable us to start in the next, and maintain throughout it a steady output of 200,000 structurally separate dwellings in a year.

The third step is to cut cottage building clean out of the main building industry (it was never really part of it), and half of the present trouble is that the two are entangled.

It cannot be too much emphasised that before the war, at the very outside, not more than one man in eight in the building industry was employed in cottage building, and it is questionable whether their output, including replacements, exceeded an average of 100,000 houses a year.

The building industry has dwindled from eight men to four, and when it is proposed that instead of taking one man out of eight for cottage building we are to take two men out of four the proposition only needs to be stated to show us in what terms of inflation it must express itself.

In the past seven men out of every eight were occupied in building other than cottages; a doubled housing programme would leave only two men out of four to do more work than in pre-war days was done by the seven.

Nearly ninety per cent. of the pre-war building industry was engaged on maintenance and repair work and on the erection of industrial and commercial buildings and better class dwellings.

House building of the kind we are dealing with was only a by-product of the building industry in much the same way as pigs and poultry are by-products of agriculture.

Under the various housing schemes that have operated since the war, cottage building has been brought out of its backwater into the main stream of the building industry, and exposed to the full force of its currents. And how strong these currents are! Building on its labour side suffers from special disadvantages as compared with other industries.

It suffered abnormal depletion during the war, and it is on such an industry in such a condition that cottage building comes with its double demand.

It is clear that if cottage building is to draw on the main building industry, it cannot have its extra man without inflating labour costs, until the whole building industry (particularly in view of the increase in maintenance and other constructional work) is recruited up to its full past strength and beyond. It is a moderate estimate that five men must come into the building industry before one additional man can be safely yielded to cottage building, and such wholesale recruiting is, it appears, to be attempted.

The building industry as a whole is to be made so attractive that it will furnish the requisite number for cottage building without leading to increased labour costs.

It is an impossible task, that cannot and will not be achieved, unless it is proposed to nationalise the whole industry.

Consider how irreconcilable is the aim of a housing programme with the facts of the building industry. Such a programme aims year by year at the provision of a sufficient number of houses to meet the increase in the demand for dwellings, and to replace those that have become unfit for human habitation.

Such an aim requires continuity and regularity for two reasons: the first is that over a lengthened period of time there is an extraordinary level of demand, and the second is that economical and smoothly running administration can be based only upon a steady and little varying programme.

Let us make up our minds as to what it is we want to do. Are we out to stabilise employment or to provide houses? If the former, we may do something towards stabilising the building industry by employing it in times of depression on cottage building. For that purpose it is an intelligent enough proposition, and something might be achieved in the direction desired, but only at the price of destroying any regular programme, year in and year out, of cottage building.

I do not deny the financial merits of the proposal. It would ensure the building of cottages on a falling market both as regards labour and material, and therefore at the lowest price. It would have, however, this supreme political defect—it would subordinate the need of those who want houses to the needs of those who only want to build them, a much smaller number.

If, on the other hand, what we want is a regular production of cottages varying little either in number or cost, we must face the fact that to obtain these conditions cottage building must be cut out of the main building industry. If what we want is a

calm harbour, we must build a breakwater between the bay and the storm-driven sea.

The increase of the labour resources of the main building industry is one problem, and will have to be dealt with as such; the securing of an adequate supply of labour for cottage building is another and happily not so difficult a one.

If we are determined that each family shall be housed up to our standard, and if we are equally determined that such housing shall not generally inflate building costs, we must make up our minds to a national municipal building service at least as extensive as our tramway service.

I do not know how long the London County Council Tramway Service has been in existence, but I am told it now employs 15,000 men; 15,000 men in an L.C.C. building service would go far to build all the cottages required in Greater London.

Yet consider. It is agreed that if we make an abnormal demand on a depleted building industry for cottage building it must cause a general inflation in building costs.

That is bound to react unfavourably both on the building industry and the architectural profession, and further it is difficult to see how the general building industry can be increased in attractiveness without a corresponding increase in costs, so that even if such a condition were secured in it by the manipulation of a cottage-building programme, the same unfavourable reaction would follow.

On these grounds—grounds not of theory but of fact, to be labelled what you like but not to be altered by any label—I submit that the only way to make cottage building possible is to make it a matter of municipal concern, and I advance the proposition:—

That the public provision of dwellings for the lower-paid workers is inevitable, that it demands a steady and little varying programme, and that the execution of such a programme without a general inflation of building costs can only be secured by the establishment of a national municipal cottage-building service apart from the main building industry.

PART IV.

A NATIONAL MUNICIPAL BUILDING SERVICE.

The first task of such a service would be to organise independent supplies of labour and materials as far as possible unaffected by fluctuations in the main building industry.

It does not necessarily follow that such supplies, when organised, should be combined under public administration: it might be that the task of combination could still be made a competitive one, the public authority supplying labour and material, the private contractor administering and supervising.

The labour task is to find 200,000 men and retain them for the specific purpose of cottage building, and my suggestion is that instead of finding these indirectly by first increasing the building industry by 500,000 men in order that 200,000 may be drawn from it, the 200,000 men should be drawn directly into a public cottage-building service.

Such a service could of course only be built up gradually, and it might well be that a commencement should be made with specific trades such as bricklayers, plasterers and slaters, the service extending as occasion demanded and opportunity offered.

In raising such a labour service the following matters would demand attention:—

(1) The attraction of men into the service.

(2) The fact that the need for new houses does not arise equally at all times in every part of the country, combined with the equally obvious fact that men grow tired of the journeyman's life and want to settle down.

(3) The steady replenishment of the service.

With regard to the first there is little doubt that a public service would offer attractions that private employment in this industry cannot give. An upstanding wage and fixity of employment would be sufficient inducement for all the men that were required.

With regard to the second and third, it is clear that the conditions of employment in such a service would have to include the right in the first years of requiring service in any part of the country, together with the prospect, in later years, of settlement in some district. Fortunately these requirements on the part of labour have their correspondences in the nature of the demand that would be made on it.

That demand is, in the first place, for new houses, a demand which may arise and have to be met anywhere. In the second place it is for replacements and repairs, which are local and can be carried out on a fixed and steady programme. For the second purpose, the older men could be settled in districts according to the need of the district, while for the first purpose the younger men could be allocated from time to time to the districts requiring them.

It is clear that such conditions prescribe that the service must be both national and local in character, the men entering first, perhaps, into a national service and passing thence into a local one. The details of such an organisation should not be difficult to work out.

In such a service the craft distinctions, though they could not be obliterated, might be much less marked, as also the distinction between skilled and unskilled labour. This in itself would confer a distinct advantage in cost on such an organisation as compared with that employed in private building.

I should limit the type of house to be erected by such a service to the "B" type, that is, the parlour house with three bedrooms, although perhaps allowing some increase in size, and I should restrain such a service from undertaking the erection of public buildings. Such restrictions would, no doubt, be necessary to secure the assent of employers and operatives in the main industry.

With regard to the replenishment of the service when organised, there would be no difficulty. On the estimate of a 25 years' life it would require the entrance of 8,000 men per annum to keep it at strength, and these could be easily furnished by the technical schools of the country, to which the prospect of a post in a public service would effectively attract a sufficient number of applicants.

As I have already indicated, I do not expect to see such a service developed in a day. A new permanent service, for whatever purpose, cannot be improvised, but must be gradually built up.

Whether it is ever established will depend on the view that commands the assent of the majority. If that view is that housing is an emergency problem to be solved by emergency measures it will not be established till the falsity of that view is seen. If, on the other hand, the view that I am putting forward is adopted, that such housing is a permanent task incapable of being solved by unaided private enterprise, every consideration that wisdom can dictate and prudence adopt must lead to the establishment of such a service.

I must say a word or two about materials.

A cottage-building programme, if it is not to be upset by the fluctuations in demand made on materials by the main industry, must have its independent sources of supply.

The materials required are few and simple—brick, stone, slate, tiles and timber are the chief. Of these brick, stone and tiles are local materials, and might be left to local provision. Slates are a national and timber an international supply. Their acquisition and distribution might be undertaken by a central authority.

With a fixed programme there should be little difficulty in determining the amount required, and as little difficulty in earmarking the supplies.

The production of these would be a matter to be decided by considerations of convenience and economy. In many cases facilities might be given for their private production. In others it might be necessary for local or central authorities to develop them. Once a definite housing programme running over an extended period is determined on, materials become merely a question of organisation and accountancy.

There is no real difficulty in solving the housing problem; those that have arisen are due to the fact that persons whose enthusiasm has outrun their intelligence have rushed into enterprises the extent of which they have not measured, with resources they have failed to estimate.

To this has been added an ignorance of or an indifference to the collateral results of the policy they have been pursuing, hence the present position.

I leave the question of the housing of the lower-paid workers with the assertion that it is a task which can be almost exactly measured, and is capable of being performed with continuity and regularity. It only requires to be approached with determination and carried out with intelligence.

I have said nothing about the part the architect plays in housing; believe me, it is an important part. He can help in the means that are to be employed and the end that is to be achieved. Building is, or should be, a matter of appropriate arrangements of parts, soundness of construction, economy in cost and beauty in result.

None of these things can be fully achieved without the co-operation of the architect, and no sound housing policy will concern itself with the rest of the workmen and leave this the chief workman out of account.

One hundred new houses are the extent of the Barnsley Corporation's new scheme, and this authority proposes to submit an application for permission to borrow £50,000 to cover building expenses.

"Housing and Town Planning Act."



CENTRE OF THE OLD VILLAGE.



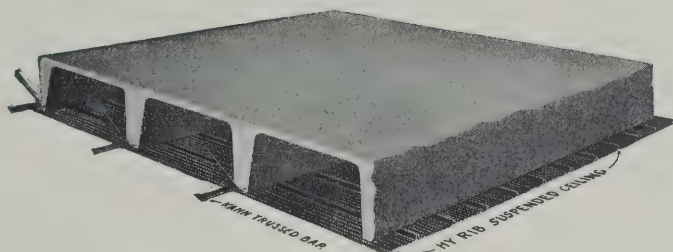
MEMORIAL HALL.

We hope from time to time to give illustrations which convince our readers of the desirability of the general adoption of the Housing and Town Planning Act. We illustrate Chalfont St. Peter, a Buckinghamshire village near Gerrard's Cross. Chalfont St. Peter as it was may be described as a village which, without containing any building of marked merit, was picturesque and pleasing. It contains a few simple half-timbered cottages, a number of the smaller buildings of the late Georgian period, a church which, though wanting in architectural merit, is picturesquely situated in the centre of the village and the lanes and roads approaching it from the direction of Uxbridge, Chalfont St. Giles and neighbouring commons. We give a view taken in the centre of the old village which shows the picturesque quality which is being rapidly and unnecessarily spoiled. Our two other views show a Memorial Hall recently erected on the outskirts of the village and formed of two old War huts which is a good example of the offences against taste which educated people are willing to commit. It may be said without fear of contradiction that the erection of such a monstrosity ought to be impossible and is not justified by any reason of finance or necessity. A well designed building of somewhat smaller size might have cost half as much again, but would not have constituted an offence against taste and an eyesore.



A ROW OF HALF-TIMBERED SHOPS.

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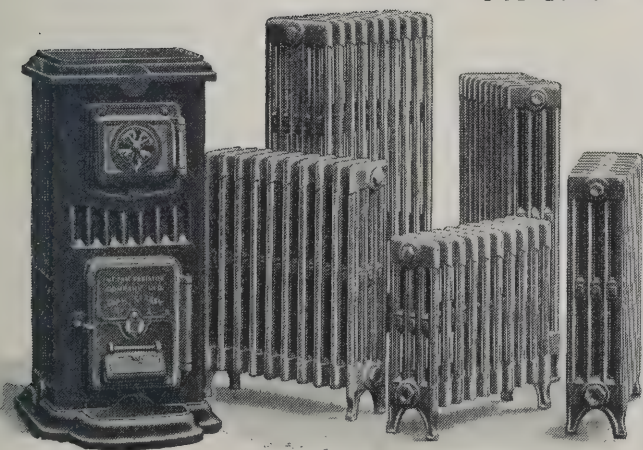
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"THE MAN WITHOUT DESIRE." This illustration depicts a scene in the famous Ridotto.

'But if the Memorial Hall is bad, what can we say of the row of half-timbered shops erected immediately above it? There are probably two or three times as many shops as will be needed for years, their design, like that of the Memorial Hall, is offence against taste and we might find their counterpart in many of the shoddiest suburban districts round our towns. Had the Housing and Town Planning Act been adopted both these horrors would have been made impossible. Chalfont St. Peter and its approaches would have formed a problem to be solved by the reasonable allocation of sites for special purposes and an attempt would be made to develop the village and preserve it from the operation of uneducated caprice. From a point of view of local finance these mistakes are unwise. The development of a district may be spoiled or jeopardised by mistakes made. We have only illustrated two horrors, but those of our readers who know the locality will agree with us that one of the most beautiful districts within easy reach of London is becoming utterly spoiled by tasteless building and badly laid out roads, all of which is unnecessary and detrimental to the interests of local holders of property.

Architecture on the Films.

The illustration above is taken from a scene in the notorious gambling hall called the Ridotto, and the "set" which Mr. Adrian Brunel, the producer, had constructed is practically an exact replica of this building. The paintings of the Italian artist, Pietro Longhi, provided the necessary authority for producing correct detail and decoration.

The Ridotto was opened by one Marco Dandolo in 1638, and was later enlarged and restored by Bernardino Maccarucci.

It became in its time the most famous of Venetian gaming houses, with its heavily-timbered ceilings and walls of stamped leather.

The entrance hall led to some dozen apartments, two of which were set apart for refreshment, where the maskers could obtain tea, coffee, wine, cheese, sausages and fruit.

The remainder of the rooms contained the gaming tables. A nobleman elaborately robed and complete in wig sat at each table ready to hold the bank against all comers.

Women were admitted to the Ridotto, but only allowed to unmask if they were "Patrician." Owing to popular agitations against gambling, the hall was eventually closed for that purpose by the Great Council in 1774, and subsequently became Government offices.

£18,000 is to be spent in the erection of 30 houses on the Broomhill site. The Keighley Corporation Housing Committee are seeking permission to borrow the money.

R.I.B.A.

Diploma in Town Planning.—On the recommendation of the Board of Architectural Education the Council approved the Regulations and Syllabus for the Examination for the Diploma in Town Planning, and appointed the following members to act as Examiners:—Professor Patrick Abercrombie, Professor S. D. Adshead, Mr. E. G. Allen, Mr. Reginald Bruce, Mr. Arthur Crow, Mr. W. R. Davidge, Mr. F. M. Elgood, Mr. W. Carby Hall, Mr. W. A. Harvey, Mr. H. V. Lanchester, Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd, Mr. W. Harding Thompson, Professor Beresford Pite, Mr. Raymond Unwin.

Prizes and Studentships.—On the recommendation of the Board of Architectural Education the Council decided that candidates who have entered for the Soane Medallion or the Tite Prize shall be permitted to submit their Drawings in place of the usual Problems in Design required for the Final Examination, and that candidates who have been awarded the Soane Medallion or the Tite Prize or who have received a Certificate of Hon. Mention in either of these Competitions shall receive exemption from the Design portion of the Final Examination.

It was also decided to fix the age limits as follows:—R.I.B.A. Essay Prize, 45 years; Measured Drawings Medal, 35 years; Pugin Studentship, 18–30 years; Owen Jones Studentship, 40 years; Tite Prize, 35 years; Soane Medallion, 35 years.

Arthur Cates Prize.—The annual value of the Prize was increased from £30 to £50.

Essay Prize.—Candidates for this Prize will be required in future to submit to the Secretary the subject on which they propose to write for the approval of the Jury.

Intermediate Examination (Subject A. General History of Architecture).—Candidates who are relegated in Subject A (General History of Architecture) of the Intermediate may be required at the discretion of the Examiners to take either subjects:—C.I. (a) Greek and Roman; or C.I. (b) Byzantine and Romanesque; or C.I. (c) French and English Gothic; or C.I. (d) Italian, French and English Renaissance; instead of being required to sit for Subject A again.

London Traffic Authority.—On the recommendation of the Town Planning Committee it was decided to urge upon the Prime Minister the necessity of the establishment of a Traffic Authority for London at the earliest date practicable.

Building Research Board.—On the recommendation of the Science Standing Committee it was decided to request the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to grant an interview to representatives of the R.I.B.A. to enable them to lay before the Department their views on the subject of research into building materials.

Public Telephone Kiosks.—On the recommendation of the Town Planning Committee it was decided to urge the Postmaster-General and the Metropolitan Boroughs Joint Standing Committee to refer the proposed new standard design for public telephone kiosks to the National Fine Arts Commission for their advice before the building of these kiosks is proceeded with.



BRITANNIC HOUSE, E.C.2 (Moorgate Front).
Architect:
Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

Steelwork Manufactured and Erected by
Redpath, Brown & Co. Ltd.

REDPATH, BROWN & CO. Ltd.

CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERS,

3 LAURENCE POUNTNEY HILL, E.C.4

WORKS AND STOCKYARDS

LONDON Riverside Works, East Greenwich, S.E.	MANCHESTER Trafford Park.	EDINBURGH St. Andrew Steel Works.	GLASGOW Westburn, Newton. Office: 19 Waterloo St.	BIRMINGHAM Office: 47 Temple Row.	NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE Office: Milburn House.
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REGISTERED OFFICES: 2 St. Andrew Square, EDINBURGH.

School and College Building.

The Surrey Education Committee propose to erect a new secondary school at Barnes to accommodate 300 pupils.

The Barnsley Education Committee are looking for a suitable site for the purpose of erecting a technical college. The Miners' Welfare Fund have offered £15,000 towards the building cost on condition that a mining department is included in the scheme and building operations are started before March, 1926.

The Durham County Education Committee propose to erect at the cost of £20,000 a grammar school.

The application to the Board of Education for permission to erect a boys' secondary school at Chorlton-cum-Hardy has been successful. The local Education Committee proposes to borrow £17,562 for the purpose.

The Middlesex Education Committee have accepted a tender for the erection of a new secondary school; the value of the tender was £20,930.

The Carmarthenshire County Education Authority is to erect a new school to accommodate 400 pupils.

The Denbighshire Education Authority proposes to provide a new elementary school at Llay for 500 children.

A new building is to be erected at Mayobridge for the National School. The Northern Ireland Education Ministry proposes to proceed at once with this work.

£12,979 is being devoted to the repair of several school buildings by the Northumberland Education Committee.

The Dewsbury Education Committee proposes to erect a new elementary school in Myrtle Road, Ravensthorpe; 600 pupils will find accommodation therein.

Kendrick girls' secondary school, Reading, is to be rebuilt at a cost of £20,500.

A new elementary school for about 500 children is to be built at Rossington, near Doncaster.

The Master of Works to the Perthshire Education Authority has been instructed to prepare specifications for a new joint school for Spittalfield and Caputh.

Mr. L. Youngman, architect, has prepared the plans for a new Sunday school extension at Holdenhurst Road, Springbourne, near Bournemouth.

It is not proposed to proceed with the erection of the whole Swansea Technical College, which, it is estimated, will, when complete, cost £100,000.

The Tottenham Council propose to erect and equip a new elementary school in Vale Road, South Tottenham. Sanction has been received by the Council to borrow the necessary funds.

The Salop Education Committee have ordered the preparation of plans for the erection of a small school to accommodate 60 children at Wentnor, Stiperstones.

London Midland & Scottish Railways. Expenditure of £14,000,000.

Orders and contracts in connection with the London, Midland and Scottish Railway's expenditure of £14,000,000 for renewals and reconstruction work are being allocated from day to day with beneficial results on the labour market in the many districts over which this work is distributed.

The orders for new locomotive boilers number 700, of which 70 have been allocated to Messrs. Vickers, Ltd., Barrow; 50 to the Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Newton-le-Willows; 30 to Kerr, Stuart & Co., Stoke; 50 to Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln; and 50 to Beyer, Peacock & Co., Ltd., Manchester. The remainder will be made in the Company's own workshops as follows:—200 at Crewe, 100 at Horwich, 100 at Derby, and 50 at St. Rollox.

The Company's carriage and wagon building programme comprises 15,000 goods wagons of various types and 518 passenger train vehicles, of which 46 are ambulance vehicles converted into brake and parcels vans. Five thousand two hundred of the goods wagons will be obtained from outside firms, but 9,800 will be made in the Company's works at Earleston, Wolverton, Derby and Newton Heath.

In connection with this work large orders for material have been given to the following firms:—

Patent Shaft & Axletree Co., Ltd., Wednesbury, steel bars, plates, tyres, etc.; Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham, steel plates, billets, angles, tees, etc.; Shelton Iron, Steel & Coal Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, steel channels, flats, bars and spring steel; The Butterley Co., Ltd., Alferton, Derby, iron, iron bars; Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield, tyres, retaining springs, buffing springs, acid steel bars, etc.; Britannia Wire Works Co., Ltd., nr. Stockport, sofa springs; Callenders' Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, tinned copper wire; D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow, mild steel plates; Steel Company of Scot-

land, Ltd., Glasgow, mild steel plates; Millars Timber & Trading Co., Ltd., London, Australian scantlings; Marshall Knott & Barker, Ltd., Grimsby, pine battens; Lamb Bros., Ltd., Liverpool, pine battens; The Earl of Dudley, coal and iron-master, Brierley Hill, special welding steel bars, steel bars, channels, tees, zeds; Monks Hall & Co., Ltd., Warrington, "B" iron, wrought iron bars, mild steel for rivets; Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe, special welding steel bars; R. Heath & Low Moor, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, wrought iron bars; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow, wheels and axles; J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Rotherham, wheels and axles; C. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Horbury Jct., Wakefield, wheels and axles; Barrow Hematite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, spring steel; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough, steel channels; Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield, steel tyres and axles; H. Bessemer & Co., Ltd., Sheffield, steel tyres and axles; Taylor Bros., Sheffield, steel tyres and disc centres; Midland Bright Drawn Steel & Eng. Works, Wednesbury, steel rivet bars; United Strip & Bar Mills, Ltd., Sheffield, steel rivets, bars and steel bars; N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Dudley, iron; Wolverhampton Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton, steel bars; S. H. Burrows & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield, steel taper bars; Clyde Rubber Works Co., Ltd., Renfrew, rubber buffer springs; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester, rubber buffer springs; G. Spencer Moulton & Co., Ltd., London, rubber buffer springs and draw springs.

Tenders.

MIDDLESEX.—The following tenders were submitted:—For extensions to the Latymer Secondary School, Hazelbury Road, Edmonton, N., for the Education Committee of the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect. *Mattock Bros., Wood Green, N., £14,677; Newby, C. J., & Bros., Southgate, N., £15,139; Fairhead, A., & Son, Enfield, £15,250; Monk, A., Lower Edmonton, N., £15,480; Miskin, C., & Sons, St. Albans, £15,650; Lovell, Y. J., & Sons, Gerrard's Cross, £15,780; Groves, G., & Sons, Tottenham, N., £15,850; Stewart, J., Tottenham, N., £15,869; Knight, H., & Son, Tottenham, N., £15,973; Lawrence, W., & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury Square, E.C., £16,000; Porter, A., Ltd., Tottenham, N., £16,220. * Recommended for acceptance.

Tenders are invited from electrical contractors for an installation executed in screwed tubing. Particulars, B.E. Engineer, Electricity Office, Eastbank Street, Southport. No date, no deposit.

Trade Note.

Messrs. William Harland & Son, varnish, enamel and fine colour manufacturers, of Merton, S.W.12, have just issued a new colour card of standard shades of their flat oil finish paint. The firm was established as far back as the year 1791, and have earned high repute for their paints and varnishes. This flat oil finish is an oil pigment for all classes of interior decoration. It will stand washing and is made for use on woodwork, walls, ceilings, radiators, or any interior fittings. For the purpose of obtaining a perfect finish it is essential that the ground work should be perfectly dry, hard and free from all "life" dirt, dust or grease. After this is done two coats of oil finish freely applied, the first coat thinned slightly with American spirits of turpentine. The paint is supplied in cans at 22s. per gallon.

The colliery developments at Blidworth are likely to create the need for considerable house building activity; 1,000 houses have been mentioned as the need of the district. The Industrial Housing Association, Ltd., propose to erect at once 100.

The Epsom Urban District Council passed the plans for seventy-four cottages to be built in various parts of the district.

The Fleet Urban District Council passed the plans for a bungalow in Connaught Road and two houses of a similar type in Wellington Avenue. There is no doubt whatever, in most women's minds, that stairs and the work they create tend towards increasing the feeling of distaste for all matters connected with domestic affairs. Double-fronted houses in years gone by were beloved by most women partly, no doubt, because the stairs in most houses of this type were considerably less than in other houses. Two storeys limited the height of the ideal double-fronted house. Some fine examples are to be seen on the Edgware Road, Castelnau Road, Barnes, etc., etc. Recently we published a Bungalow and Small Houses number which contained some very attractive designs for houses of this character. Our stock of copies is fast nearing its end, and those who have not secured this useful reference issue on this subject should send their order as soon as possible.

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UGBOROUGH VICARAGE, DARTMOOR. P. D. HEPWORTH, Architect.

Modern English Architecture.*

The book recently published on Modern English Architecture is a very fair and careful summary if we look upon it as the work of an amateur. It would be a difficult task for an architect to write such a book, but it is far more difficult for an amateur to estimate the force and effect of the very complex currents which have during the last hundred years disturbed modern architecture. An architect would inevitably be swayed by his predilections, whereas an amateur, while seeing less, is likely to give a more unbiassed opinion.

It is a little unfortunate that the author should have given up seven chapters to a discussion of the nature of architecture and decoration, for definitions are always difficult to arrive at, and these seven chapters might well have been given up to the description and criticism of an additional number of modern buildings, for the remaining seventeen chapters are too short to adequately cover the field. The best way in which a book of this character could be written would be to describe a large number of buildings and then to build up synthetical conclusions. The other method of a preliminary analysis and subsequent description is unlikely to be equally effective.

The author says "If he is to give satisfaction to his clients, the modern designer of commercial buildings must not only concur in the idea of display, but must also aid in the general hypnotic effect. He must exclaim loudly that Blanks are the people. It is not merely a problem of providing more window space, though that is a problem in itself, but of making the whole building look impressive. The architect has to take part in a gigantic game of bluff. . . . It is

not his business to reform our institutions. That is the right answer to people who complain that our architects do not 'with sufficient plainness express our own times and social circumstances. If they did the result would be architectural chaos, because our own times and circumstances are in disorder' . . . The truth is that you cannot get an A1 architecture out of a C3 civilisation."

This is good criticism, and we have never known the essential difficulties put with greater clearness.

We appreciate the enormous difficulties which confront those architects who are engaged on the design of great retail shops and stores, because we know that they must feel they are confronted with problems which cannot be satisfactorily solved. To us there is something unpleasant in great buildings which emulate the display of public buildings but are devoted to the sale of articles by middlemen. Shopkeeping necessarily needs convenient and commodious premises, but it does not need replicas of the great American departmental stores which squeeze out the specialist shopkeeper and which give us disturbing units in our streets because they put surrounding buildings out of scale. We quite agree with Mr. Trystan Edwards that the merging of the windows of several stores into a single opening is unfortunate from a point of view of design, and is an æsthetic blunder.

We doubt also whether the building of these great blocks is an economically sound proposition at the present time. As compared with the pre-war epoch we have little more than half the money to spend, the income tax is much higher, and neither external nor internal trade is in a flourishing condition. How under these circumstances people should imagine there is room for these gigantic buildings dedicated to retail trade we cannot see. But we suppose they will be

* "Modern English Architecture." By Charles Marriot. Universal Art Series. London: Chapman & Hall, Ltd. 25s. net.

built unless public opinion can be brought round to the sound conclusion that it would be in the public interests to regulate displayed advertisements, to fix heights of fascias and the size and style of lettering on them, and to insist that a satisfactory balance should be fixed between voids and solids in the building of shop-fronts. All these and other regulations are urgently needed if we value dignity in our streets, and such regulations would not restrain nor limit trade, but would simply cut down the worst features of what are in effect blatant advertisements. Meanwhile the architect can, as Mr. Marriot says, do little. A similar course of reasoning will lead us to the conclusion that the obligatory adoption of the Housing and Town Planning Act will alone mitigate the destruction of country and suburban districts. All architects can do in the absence of such public control as we have indicated is to design individual buildings suitably, though they know that the effect they have striven to obtain may be jeopardised by what is done on adjoining sites. One of Mr. Marriot's best passages is the following: "A fair criticism of the work of Rickards is to say that it does not tend to go farther in a Baroque direction than is really compatible with our grey climate and our sober dress and manners; that it looks a little exotic, and also that, like rhetorical speaking and writing, it sometimes appears to say more than the subject will bear. Architecture may

be more than engineering, but it is not sculpture; and the overworked word 'plastic' expresses the defects as well as the merits of the work of Rickards." We are glad the volume includes a couple of views of Messrs. Vincent Harris and Moodie's Glamorgan County Hall at Cardiff, for it is a building the exceptional merit of which hardly seem to us to have been sufficiently appreciated by the profession. We do not agree with the author's opinion of the Deptford Town Hall, which, with other of Messrs. Lanchester and Rickards's work, has never seemed to us to be in the same category as the Cardiff Town Hall and Law Courts, which first made their name known. We are glad to see that justice is done to the London County Hall, a building which has hardly received the appreciation it deserves. It is a pity that no illustrations are given of works by either Norman Shaw, Philip Webb, Bentley or Bodley—surely an omission in a work devoted to modern architecture? But such omissions are perhaps to be looked for in the work of one who cannot be expected to be as conversant with the subject matter he writes of as an architect with literary taste would be.

The book may be defined as having considerable merit and certain defects, but as being the work of one who has taken pains to be fair and impartial in his judgment, while it must have been the result of a great deal of research of a kind difficult to a layman.

Our Illustrations.

LONG CRENDEN MANOR: WEST ELEVATION. PHILIP TILDEN, Architect.

THE NUNNERY, DUNSTER. Drawing by WILLIAM T. BENSLYN.

HOUSE AT OTTERSHAW, NEAR CHERTSEY. BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, Architects.

Notes and Comments.

A Housing Conference.

The All-Day Conference on Housing in Greater London, to be held on Saturday, April 5, at Miss Maude Royden's centre, The Guildhouse, Eccleston Square, near Victoria, marks a new departure. Both Upper and Lower Halls are to be used—the Upper for the Conference, and the Lower for a twofold purpose. There will be a bookstall and exhibition of plans, designs, models, etc., and there will also be luncheon and teas at such moderate prices as to enable anybody to spend the day there, listening and talking and observing. The Conference has the support of nearly all the experts, and that all points of view are represented is shown by such speakers on the list as Col. Levita, Chairman of the L.C.C. Housing Committee; Mr. Herbert Morrison, M.P., L.C.C.; Mr. Raymond Unwin, F.R.I.B.A.; Mr. J. C. Squire, President of the Architecture Club; Mr. Coppick, Secretary of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives. "Traffic Problems," "Ca' canny," "Dilution," "The Ring Round the House," "Beauty in Building," will all be discussed, and the day's work will end with a lantern lecture by Captain Reiss, of the Town Planning Association, and author of "The House I Want."

The R.I.B.A. Meeting Room.

The "R.I.B.A. Journal" states that "the reconstruction of the Meeting Room at Conduit Street, which was contemplated some two years ago when a piece of land adjoining the old room was purchased, is now complete and the new room is in use. It is roughly about 47 feet square, lighted by a central glass dome and by four small domes in the corners. The approach to it is through a new vestibule at the side of the door into the Common Room, and from this vestibule a corridor leads to the old East Gallery, enlarged by throwing into it a portion of the old meeting room, which is now to serve for the Council Room. The

only other alteration has been an increase in the lavatory accommodation. Mr. Hope Bagenal was consulted as to the treatment of the meeting room in order to make it a good one to speak in, and the general impression is that the result is distinctly satisfactory. Mr. Bagenal's suggestion was to arrange for sound to be reflected from the platform end of the room and from both side walls, and to be stopped as effectually as possible elsewhere. As the room will be used frequently for exhibitions of drawings and photographs the walls had to be finished with boarding and canvas, but on the side opposite the platform the wall is padded with Cabot quilting, and the frieze all round the room, excepting over the platform, is similarly padded, as are also the upright fillings under the central dome. This treatment appears to be quite effective. The wall behind the platform is panelled in wood, so as to form a good reflector of sound. Advantage is taken of this panelling to write up the names of the Institute prize-winners, and it is intended to inscribe the names of Presidents and Gold Medallists on panels in the Council Room."

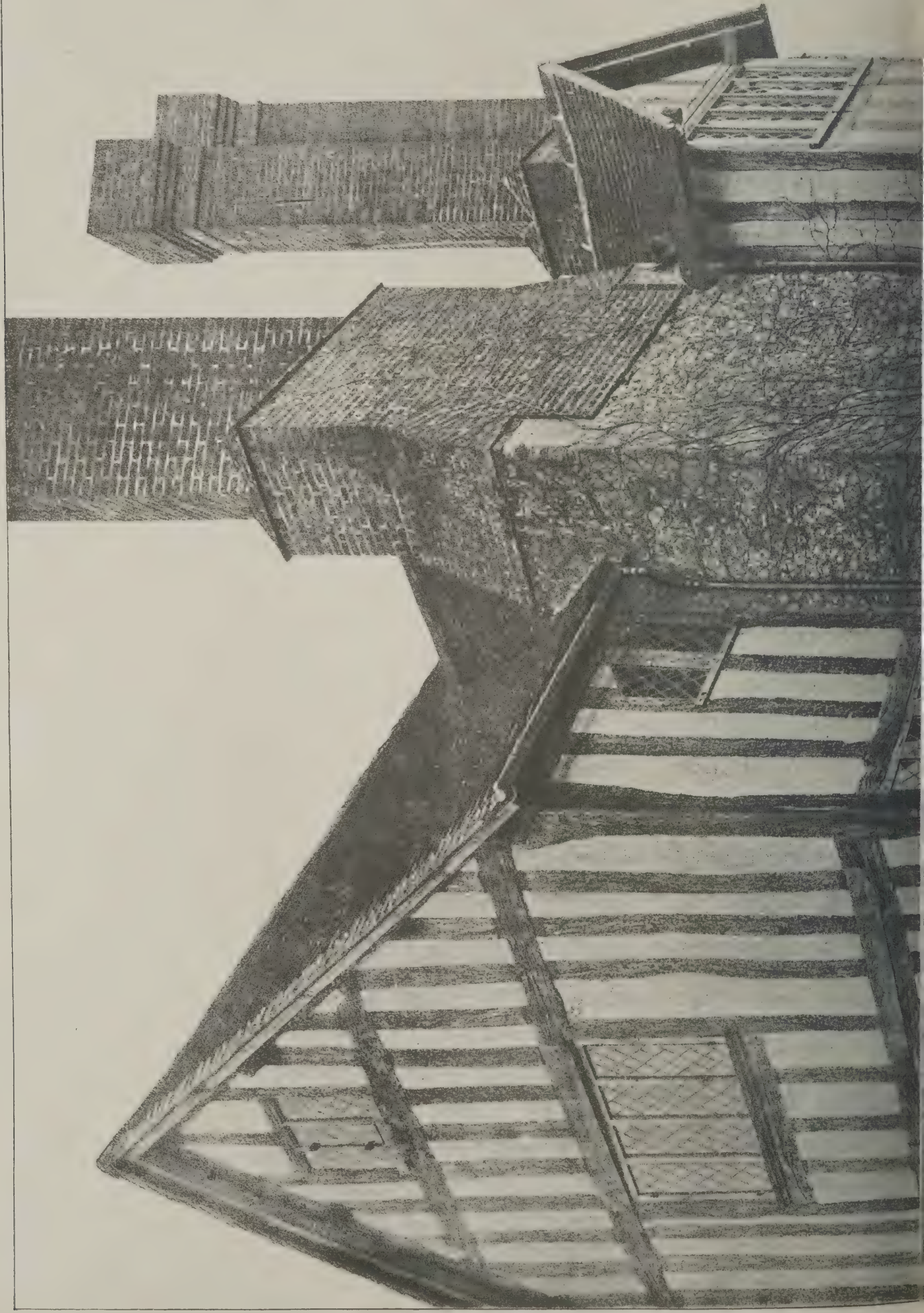
The new room is conveniently placed in relation to the main entrance and the Common Room and is treated in harmony with the style of the adjoining buildings.

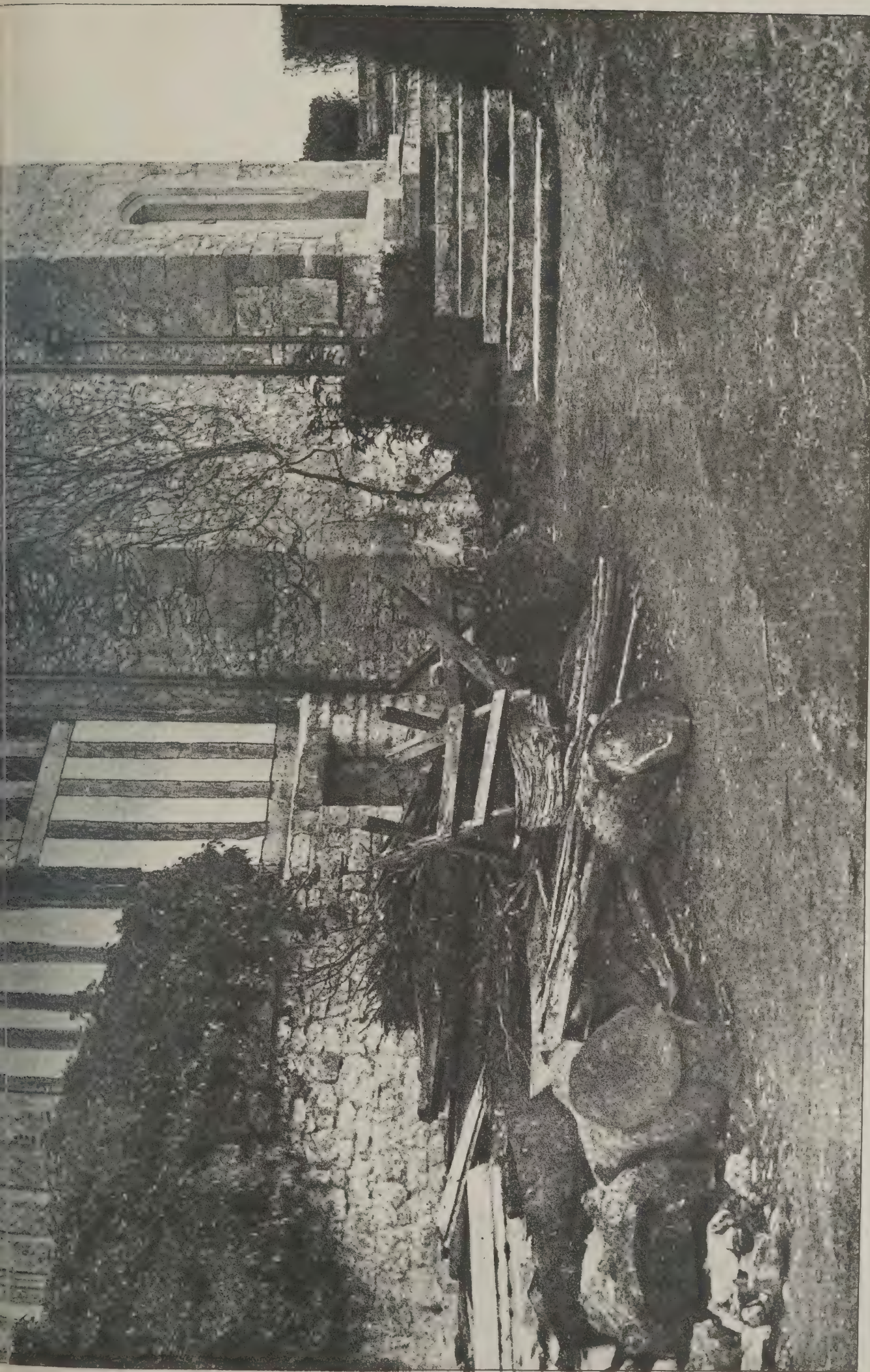
Open Spaces.

The Secretary of the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association writes to the "Times" suggesting that in view of the great value of unbuilt open spaces, such as Mornington Crescent and Endsleigh Gardens, which are worth about £25,000 an acre, the London County Council should obtain powers to render such sites ineligible for building, in order that they may be preserved as open spaces in perpetuity without the necessity of paying heavy compensation for them. We doubt whether such a proposal can be regarded as consistent with equity, as it seems to us that the

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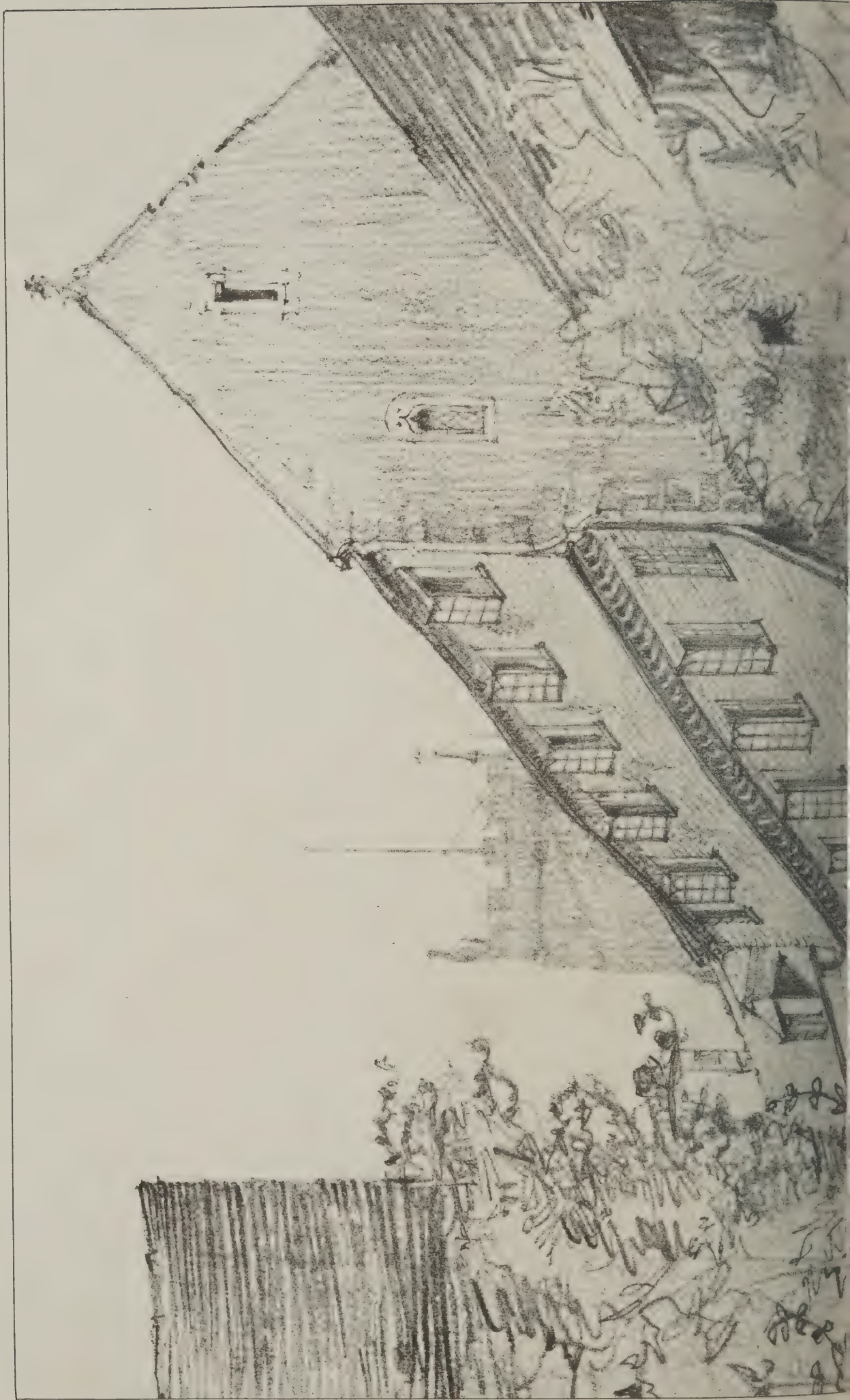


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LONG CRENDON MANOR. WEST ELEVATION.

PHILIP TILDEN, ARCHITECT.

THE ARCHITECT, MARCH 28th, 1924.





William T. Benslyn

The Nunnery, Dunster

THE NUNNERY. DUNSTER.

DRAWING BY WILLIAM T. BENSLYN.

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HOUSE AT OTT
BAILLIE SCOT

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NEAR CHERTSEY.

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owners have a clear right to utilise their property as seems best to them just as they would an unbuilt on area between two blocks of buildings. The provision of open spaces is desirable, but it is even more desirable still to safeguard rights of property and not to deprive owners of their rights without full and adequate compensation. It is true that the law of ancient lights may be quoted as an instance of the interference with owners' rights over their property, but the law of ancient lights should in the interests of justice and of the community be repealed.

The Building Trade.

The demand of building trade operatives for an advance of 2d. per hour in wage rates has reached a new stage. The claim was made through the machinery of the National Wages and Conditions Council for a readjustment of the cost of living sliding scale by 22 points, so as to raise the wages of all grades of workers by 2d. per hour. The employers' representatives opposed the application on the ground that the present wage rate of 1s. 8d. per hour in London and 1s. 7½d. in the provinces was an adequate wage and above the average of the workers in other trades. A second effort by the trade unions through the National Council to achieve the same result by an alteration of the rules governing wages proved equally futile. Thereupon the trade unions gave notice to the employers of a claim for a general advance of 2d. per hour.

Both sides met privately to consider the position, and representatives of the Building Employers' Federation and of the Building Trade Unions' Federation considered the questions raised.

The men's proposals were discussed at great length. One or two occasions during the afternoon the parties came near to a breakdown. Ultimately a suggestion that the question of an advance should be referred to a small committee of five from each side, with Mr. White, the employers' secretary, and Mr. Coppuck, the workmen's secretary, was accepted, and saved the situation.

Meanwhile, it is announced that rises have occurred in many building materials, including lead and bricks, so that the auspices of cheap building are not very promising. We hope that some solution may be arrived at, otherwise the position in the near future will be a very difficult one.

Strikes and then Negotiation!

It appears to be the custom to strike first and then to negotiate, but it would seem to be wiser to reverse the process and certainly the latter would be in the interests of the general public. We are glad to see that legislation is to be introduced to deal with Metropolitan traffic as a whole, but though this may probably lead to savings it seems doubtful whether it will materially increase the revenues to be obtained. Both sides to the controversy seem convinced that it is not feasible to increase fares and neither party have made the assertion that the deficiency should be made good by contributions from the rates. A difficulty is introduced in this and other similar disputes by the somewhat dogmatic insistence on terms without discussion of the possibility of meeting those terms from revenue. We know these recurrent difficulties will more and more direct attention to methods of eliminating the necessity of employing labour. On the Humber, where new Portland Cement works are being laid down, an endeavour is being made to limit the amount of labour necessary by spending money on machines which do away with the necessity of employing men. In a similar manner if the non-stop system is, as is stated, applicable to the tube railways, the companies by a large capital expenditure would at one and the same time provide a far better service and be able to dispense with a large part of the men now employed.

It might be found practicable on our other railways to introduce some modification of the American system, under which booking for the smaller stations is all done on the train itself by a conductor, doing away with the services of several men employed at each one of the smaller stations.

Even in the Post Office service it might be feasible to reduce the long daily country rounds in sparsely popu-

lated districts to two or three a week, letting people call for important letters between times at the distributing post office. This, though a change which would be regretted, would lead to considerable economies. It is true that such changes as we have mentioned would lead to a reduction of employment, but they may become necessary if labour insists on a scale of pay which theoretically may seem reasonable but which is practically impossible. We cannot get on indefinitely in a country in which everything is run at a loss. We know that the high price of coal—an industry in which the owners are willing to let 85 per cent. of the profits go to the workers—is handicapping our industries, damaging the shipping trade of the country, and while the very high prices have also led to a very much smaller proportion of coal being used for domestic purposes, people are frequently putting up with insufficient fires to save expense. Building is also curtailed by high prices, of which labour in different forms gets the benefit of 80 per cent. of the money spent.

It is very difficult to see how all these troubles are to be ended unless both parties exercise common sense. Capital is necessary, but is being so squeezed that there is less and less inducement to employ it at home. It is chimerical to imagine, as some ardent Labour politicians do, that the difficulty can be met by a compulsory redistribution of existing wealth. It can only be effected by the production of greater wealth, for which the co-operation of labour and capital are necessary.

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association.

An Easter tour has been arranged by the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association to the Dordogne, a district of peculiar interest to architects and town planners, and but little known to most Englishmen. The party will leave London on the Wednesday before Easter, April 16, and will return in the week-end April 26-28, allowing those who wish to stay on in Paris. Among the towns visited will be Cahors, famous for the most beautiful example of a thirteenth century bridge in existence, its palaces built by Pope John XXII, and many other striking buildings; Rocamadour, a town of pilgrimage fantastically hung on the edge of a precipice; Montpazier, a perfect example of the bastide towns built by Edward I. to secure his conquests in France; and Perigueux, which, like Cahors, is of Roman or pre-Roman foundation and contains the famous church of St. Front.

Apart from the urban interests of the districts visited the country of the Valleys of the Lot and Graonne is of great beauty, and at the time of year chosen for the visit the climate should be delightful.

Full details of the tour, itinerary, cost, etc., will be sent on application to the Secretary, Garden Cities and Town Planning Association, 3, Gray's Inn Place, London, W.C.1.

British Industries Fair.

The work of constructing the British Industries Fair organised by the Department of Overseas Trade, and to be held at the White City from April 28 to May 9 next, has now been started.

Advance details of exhibits in the numerous industries which will be represented there show considerable enterprise on the part of British manufacturers, who have never been in a better position since the war to supply the demands their exhibits should create.

The great majority of exhibitors at the Fair are manufacturers who exhibit every year, but the Department of Overseas Trade will be pleased to make any arrangements in its power to accommodate firms who have not yet applied for space. Immediate application in such cases should be made to the Secretary, the British Industries Fair, 35 Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The Directors of the Bell's United Asbestos Co., Ltd., have resolved to recommend to the shareholders at the annual general meeting to be held on April 10, 1924: (a) The payment of a balance dividend of 1s. 6d. per share on the ordinary shares of the company, which, with the interim dividend paid in October last, makes a total distribution of 10 per cent. for the year; (b) that £10,000 be placed to reserve for depreciation and contingencies, increasing that fund to £38,000; (c) that £31,483 1s. 4d. be carried forward.

Archæology and Architecture.

By P. W. Hubbard, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

At the present time something seems to be pricking the architectural conscience. The fact is we are becoming dissatisfied with modern design.

Various well known architects have lately expressed their views in this paper on present-day tendencies. Professor Richardson has held forth at length on this subject,

never quite dissociate ourselves from tradition. Though we may find that the employment of new materials occasion new forms and fresh methods of treatment, yet these do not alter our standards of taste or cause as to propound new theories of art.

If that be granted, then the question of clothing becomes more of a secondary consideration, but it is none the less of great importance. In this connection certain architectural detail culled from the past has been constantly repeated, not necessarily because it is academic or archæological, but because experience has shown that certain forms or lines are most appropriate when used for certain purposes and in certain positions. Suppose, for example, in a steel-frame building it were necessary to support a beam on a series of uprights, should we therefore condemn the design because this steel skeleton were covered with a stone facing, even as our bones by flesh? We could still express the constructional theme by giving the supports the form of Doric columns carrying an entablature. As Mr. Howard Robertson has remarked, "The presence of such apparently illogical forms, if they are necessary from the point of view of composition, is therefore not to be hastily condemned. . . . Clothed with the beauty of proportion and detail which represents something approaching finality in this particular form of design, and having therefore inherent decorative qualities, classic columns and entablatures form a means of expressing form and line contrast which is tried and ready to hand." He would, indeed, be a "master of art" who could create something more satisfying to the eye than this "academic dress," which has endured through the ages because every part is so perfectly proportioned and so admirably harmonised.



RUE DESCARTES, PARIS. ADRIAN HILL, Artist.

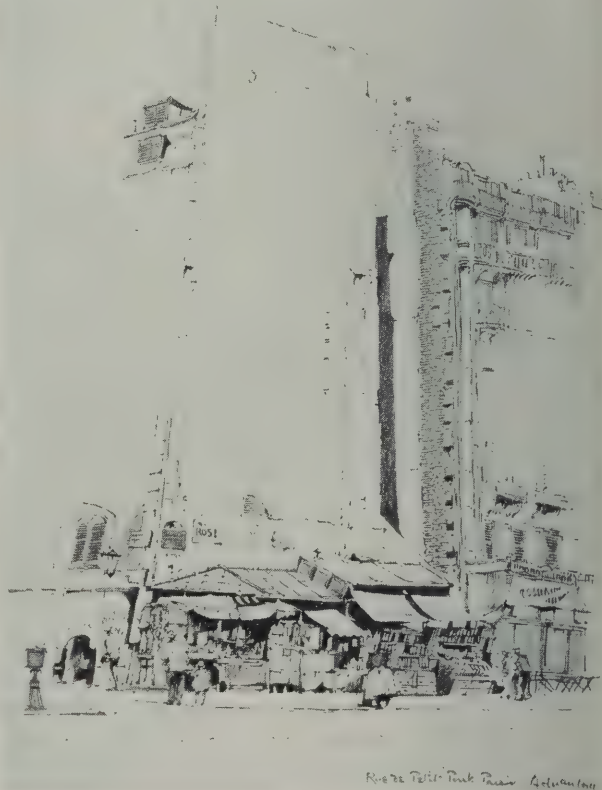
and directed attention to the necessity for obtaining a new viewpoint in dealing with the problems which confront us.

Mr. A. R. Powys, writing in the "London Mercury," has ably pointed out the dangers that archæology may produce in architecture. He says "that architecture was divorced from reality by the misapplication of archæological knowledge."

If this knowledge be misapplied we are certainly in agreement with him. The futility of mere slavish copyism for the sake of imitation, without regard to the needs of a modern problem, is obvious.

Economic conditions alone will restrain us from making use of an ancient heritage. There are hosts of new buildings which are bedizened with quite inappropriate decoration of a meaningless and bygone order. Various façades designed in an illogical and archaic manner are erected around absolutely modern plans, which have no cause to be ashamed of self-expression. So far, so good, but when Mr. Powys says the architect "must not apply his knowledge of the ancient forms gained in this study [of archæology] for clothing the buildings of the present day," then we must part company, since one cannot help feeling that this assertion is a little too sweeping.

As I pointed out in the Foreword to "Architectural Thought, 1924," no new style can be suddenly invented, each succeeding age develops from the past. As we know, the Georgian and Queen Anne evolved from the Jacobean and Elizabethan, which in turn were inspired by the Italian Renaissance. The Italians had discovered the architecture of Rome, which had been largely derived from the Greek; and even the Egyptians knew how to support a lintel on a column. Thus throughout history we can



RUE DE PETIT PONT, PARIS. ADRIAN HILL, Artist.

We are aware that an iron girder can span a tremendous width, and the use of that metal is perfectly logical for the purpose, but that does not therefore make the opening more beautiful or more in scale, whereas a correct use of the "orders" cannot fail to give a satisfying relationship between solids and voids.



STREET IN SARLAT. ADRIAN HILL, Artist.

Under these circumstances, therefore, I am unable to agree with Mr. Powys in his generalisation "that the results of archæological study, as applied to modern building art, are harmful."

Surely the calculations of the engineer and the structural laws of the scientist must be combined with the perceptions of the artist; since, in point of fact, mass, line, colour, proportion, arrangement of light and shade, decoration and hosts of other values, which give beauty and grandeur to our conceptions, are estimated on an æsthetic rather than a mechanical or structural basis.

I am not attempting to vindicate the application of antiquarian research in every instance, as some architectural insincerities, however academic, are in such utterly bad taste that no excuse should be made for them. Nevertheless, the point is that the employment of knowledge which the archæologist has laid bare is not necessarily wrong in the design of a building which is purely the product of modern conditions and thus has no historical precedent. In fact, the reverse is very often the case.

Mr. Arthur Davis has given us the example of his match factory at Liverpool—a most successful work—the colour scheme of which was founded on that of Assyrian temples.

The Kodak Co. building and Wolsey House are both modern conceptions, and are planned presumably in accordance with present-day requirements, but we do not think any the less of the latter because it happens to be designed on traditional lines and with classic *motifs*. One must, however, very cordially concur with Mr. Powys when he objects to the use of academic forms that were suitable for one material being used for another. But one does this not because they were academic but on account of their failure to express function.

Such a case has been exemplified in an interesting article on new bridges by Mr. Powys. He draws attention to a recently constructed ferro-concrete bridge, which spans the river with a single arch; and makes the excellent suggestion that the pathways should have been carried on cantilever brackets, which would have taken the place of the present cast concrete cornice with its modillions and the rest of the usual members.

The designer is criticised for being ashamed of the properties of his material, which he has endeavoured to disguise with features natural to stone. One point at issue is the employment of an architrave moulding just above the outside arched beam. Mr. Powys says "it is not natural for the material to be cast into delicate mouldings . . . The bridge would have been better had the architrave moulding been omitted."

"Delicate" may be a relative term, but surely the nature of concrete readily admits of being formed into mouldings. Had the designer channelled the face of the concrete to give the appearance of voussoirs, then certainly he should have been censured for attempting to deceive.

But what he did was to produce a series of lines above the great arch. Now one of the chief functions of line is to give movement. The eye follows these lines, which help to carry it from one side of the river to the other. It would seem, therefore, that this architrave is not out of place, and moreover serves its purpose.

Architecture of to-day, in my humble opinion, suffers far more from those who try to be original than from those who are content to follow tradition and tread well-worn paths. Hence, there appears one great point in favour of applying archæological knowledge to our modern conceptions; for if we omitted to make use of such forms as have been tried and tested by time and experience we should then be eternally compelled to invent instead of to evolve.



OLD HOUSE AT SARLAT, FRANCE. ADRIAN HILL, Artist.

The illustrations which are included in this article were taken from a number of charming drawings exhibited recently in the Greves Gallery, Old Bond Street, W., by the artist, Mr. Adrian Hill. He demonstrated clearly that he possessed more than one method of expression. His decorative work did not appeal to us in the same way as his architectural sketches. Perhaps too many examples of the former were on view, and they, being in subject and treatment of a sameness, we were unable to appreciate them, as might have been the case had perhaps only three or four been included in the exhibition.

Mr. Geoffrey William Hilton, of Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, architect and surveyor, left £14,602.

Correspondence.

Park Lane.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—My father's name has been associated with so many public questions during the past fifty years that I am often denied even the insignificance of my own identity. Not that this matters, but I may perhaps be allowed to take the opportunity afforded by your attribution of my Park Lane proposal to Mr. Mark Judge to make more widely known the fact that my father has been incapacitated for the past four years from keeping up his life-long association with public affairs.

With regard to your references to the proposal itself, may I say that the essence of what I advocated does not aim at "giving the houses the appearance of standing on the edge of the Park." I emphasised the possibilities of the carriage and foot ways of Hyde Park being adjacent to the roadway of Park Lane, and the amenities of pedestrian and vehicular traffic are the prime consideration in the transformation I have in mind, in which neither the individual owner's privacy nor his sense of personal possession would be affected—unless, indeed, the latter were enhanced.

It is not feasible in the correspondence columns of "The Times" to give anything like adequate details of such a proposal as I hinted at, the lines of which I should like to see mapped out by someone more qualified than myself to deal with it.

I am, yours etc.,

MAX JUDGE.

The Curse of the "Ideal Home" Exhibition.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I do not know whether architects generally suffer, as I do, from the "Ideal Home" Exhibition. I never go near it myself because one sees quite enough of the inane vulgarities of modern building without making a special journey to enjoy the concentrated essence of it specially distilled for the unsuspecting public. On such occasions a prospective client enters the office with a sheaf of gaily-coloured booklets. We are asked to construct a house of some compound which is equally useful either as substitute for brick, stone, wood or tiles. The hall is to be panelled by oak panelling which is apparently so called, firstly, because it isn't oak, and, secondly, because it isn't paneling. The drawing-room walls are to be tastefully adorned by slabs of stained deal. The bathroom is to be tiled with something which isn't tiles, but tries its best to look like them. The chief merit of each material seems to lie in the fact that it pretends to be something else, and in this way a sort of nightmare of substitutes is built up. It is not always possible to wean our prospective client from this obsession of the substitute. We may tell him that no one is obliged under penalties to panel his hall in oak, but everyone is obliged under penalties to be reasonably honest. It is true such crimes are not punishable by law, but they will at least earn the contemptuous amusement of the judicious. No word from the Press warns us of the horror of these things—quite the reverse; and, meanwhile, the taste of the public is debauched by these exhibitions of atrocities.—Yours, etc.,

BAILLIE SCOTT.

Membership to the R.I.B.A. and Registration.

DEAR SIR,—Now that the R.I.B.A. Council Elections are drawing near, and it seems likely that the present Council intend to stand or fall by their Unification programme—Unification as a means to Registration—I would like to ask the Council whether they have thought it likely that Parliament would ever grant Registration so long as the privilege of attaching F.R.I.B.A. and A.R.I.B.A., etc., is dependent upon the individual's yearly subscription to the Institute. Because I am of the opinion that no Parliament would ever pass a Registration Bill which would confer financial benefit to any private body, institute or association, be they in possession of a Royal Charter or not.

Every thinking person will recognise that there is no logical sense or fairness in passing qualifying examinations and obtaining a degree if such a degree can be taken from you if you do not pay a yearly fee to an Institute which may or may not do anything in return for this financial support.—Yours, etc.

UNIFICATION.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—I should like to compliment the writer of the article entitled "Registration" which appeared in your issue dated March 14. The case for those in favour of Registration and Unification was very clearly set forth, and I await with considerable interest the publication of the present Council's programme for Unification with the Society of Architects. I have long felt that the Defence League are quite correct in

their attitude, if the whole question were a matter of present personal interests. But none of us, I hope, live solely for ourselves; all of us surely have some feelings of pride in the profession of architecture as a whole. It must have escaped the notice of the Defence League that the moment the Royal Institute is the head of a unified profession the entrance examination into the Institute can be made so difficult as to admit only a race of highly qualified individuals. Under such conditions the whole standard of the profession is bound to take an upward movement, which will soon bring back any quality that the profession may lose by Unification to-day.

Men are apt to lose sight of the fact that, taken as individual units of the whole community, they count very little. And so it is with architects. In the minds of the general public they are one class of professionals, whether they can put letters behind their names or not. And the controllers of the Defence League would do well to remember that the world is ever progressing on broader lines of thought. Matters that improve the conditions of a whole class have to-day greater weight than the claims of individuals. Only a broad-minded man to-day has any chance of success. We are living in an age where co-operation means power. The profession as a unified body can accomplish much.—Yours, etc.,

CITY ARCHITECT.

Norman Shaw, R.A., Architect.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—It gave me great pleasure to read your vindication of the great gifts of the late Norman Shaw, R.A., architect, in your leading article of March 21. It seems to me rather unfortunate that a writer who has taken for his subject the "Masters of Architecture" should, in writing about one, belittle another. I am quite ready to admit that Chambers created in Somerset House a very fine building. But when we consider the legacy of Norman Shaw's work, Chambers's effort must sink into the background. Norman Shaw did for English architecture a service it is quite impossible to estimate. It can be truthfully stated that Norman Shaw founded modern English domestic architecture. He aroused an appreciation for good domestic work in the British public, which later spread all over the world. In his time, and for some years after his death, English domestic architecture was the source of inspiration for all countries. Somerset House cannot be said to have inspired any great popular appreciation for architecture in the same sense as Norman Shaw's domestic work.—Yours, etc.

A. A.

Scholarships for Londoners.

The London County Council is prepared to consider applications for the following scholarships from British subjects, provided their parents or guardians live in the County of London:—

1. *Intermediate Technical or Art Scholarships* providing free tuition at recognised schools in London and, in some cases, a maintenance grant, for students from 16 to 18 years of age, in engineering, technical optics, architecture and building, chemical trades, art, etc. Candidates must possess scientific or artistic ability and their general education must be up to matriculation standard.

2. *Senior Scholarships in Science and Technology or Art and Artistic Crafts* providing free instruction at full-time day courses at institutions of University rank or at which advanced instruction in science, technology, art, etc., is given. They will enable students who are engaged in trades or occupations, and have attended evening classes for at least two years, to give up their day work and pursue a course of advanced instruction related to their employment. In some cases a maintenance grant, assessed on the merits of each individual case, will be provided, but it will not exceed £160 a year. If the candidate is over 21 years of age and is self-supporting, he, or she, must be ordinarily resident in London. Candidates must be not less than 18 years of age.

3. *Free places at the Imperial College of Science and Technology* for candidates at least 18 years of age desirous of taking a post-graduate course in chemistry, engineering, etc.

4. *An "Archibald Dawson" Scholarship in Civil Engineering* of the value of £110 a year, providing training for two or three years at an approved polytechnic or technical school for a student between 16 and 18 years of age.

Forms of application and detailed particulars may be obtained from the Education Officer, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1.

G. H. GATER,
Education Officer.

The County Hall,
Westminster Bridge, S.E.1.
March, 1924.

An Italian Sculptor-Architect : Giovanni Nicolini.

By Kinton Parkes.



FASCISTI MEMORIAL. By GIOVANNI NICOLINI, Sculptor.

Nowhere is there a warmer love for the sculptured monument than in Italy, and nowhere is this particular phase of architectural sculpture more widely practised. Most of the greater cities possess several works of this kind in their public squares and gardens, and the cemeteries everywhere testify to the feeling of dignity in death conveyed by a sculptured mausoleum.

Most of the great sculptors of the country have produced important monuments both in their native land and in countries beyond the seas. Conspicuous amongst these is Giovanni Nicolini, the Sicilian artist, who was born in 1872, and at eighteen years of age became a pupil of the sculptor Giulio Monteverde at Rome, where he now lives and where some of his most important works are to be found, one of them being the great group of "The Triumph of Statesmanship" on the Victor Emmanuel II. Bridge, finished in 1911. This is an imposing symbolic representation of five large figures, the central one being a draped female holding a mace, indicating political power, while the four nude male figures supporting her bear the emblems of militarism and the victory over it.

Nicolini first began to exhibit at the Salon in 1900, and his works have been seen with frequency since that date at Venice, Munich, Barcelona and other centres of living art, and in 1905 he exhibited his realistic "Sulphur Mine" at the St. Louis Universal Exhibition, and so began an association with the American continent which he has since maintained. His tomb monument to Joaquin Nabuco of 1913 at Pernambuco, Brazil, is a singularly

happy combination of sculpture and architecture, and a model of fine construction. At the front is a pedestal bearing a bust of the subject of the memorial, supported by a graceful female mourning figure. Behind is a massive socle, on which an elaborately carved group of partly draped figures support a casket. Other monuments are that to King Humbert I., the Crispi memorial in the Pantheon at Palermo, where the artist received his first instruction in drawing, and where also is his Francesco Paolo Ferrara monument. Nicolini's share of the great Victor Emmanuel memorial in Rome is the marble group "La Calabria," and in Rome also is his bronze "General Galliano."

Another important work abroad is the fine equestrian statue on an elaborate architectural base to General Rodriguez at Havana. On this base is a bronze panel, and another detail of the structure of great importance in conception, execution and design is the fine Greek warrior with helmet and shield seated on the lower part and in front of the main subject.

To celebrate the victory of Fascisti, "October 30, 1922," Nicolini made a striking monument of two figures of nationals marching forward in triumph. These he treated in a completely realistic fashion, and he emphasized the impression, placed them on a completely plain base, which effects considerable dignity.

This is in contrast to his usual practice, for most of the monuments are conceived in the decorative Italian spirit, and include certain floral ornament which is distinctly indicative of the Italian modern style, modified, however, by a treatment in which realism is applied with much success and without incongruity. This is well seen in the high relief group of the Joaquin Nabuco monument, to which I have referred.

Nicolini is not wholly occupied with monumental work. He has received gold medals at various exhibitions on the continent for smaller pieces of sculpture such as "The Source,"



DETAIL OF GENERAL RODRIGUEZ MONUMENT.
By GIOVANNI NICOLINI, Sculptor.



MONUMENT TO JOAQUIN NABUCO.

By GIOVANNI NICOLINI, Sculptor.



DETAIL OF THE JOAQUIN NABUCO MONUMENT.



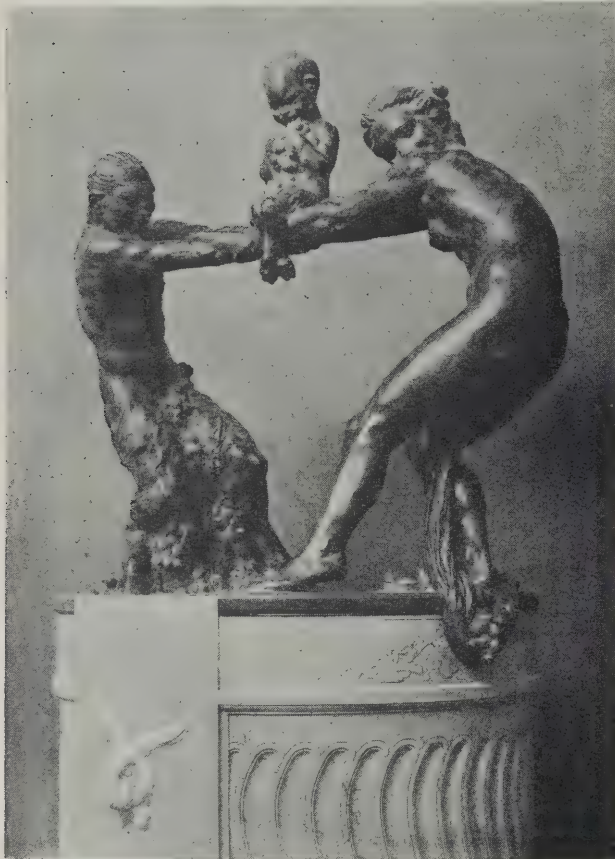
THE GENERAL RODRIGUEZ MONUMENT AT HAVANA.



COLOSSAL GROUP IN STONE. THE TRIUMPH OF STATESMANSHIP.
By GIOVANNI NICOLINI, Sculptor.

bought by the King of Italy; in the galleries of modern Art, in Rome, "The Mowers"; "Orfeo" at Antwerp; "The Drunkard" at Venice; "Ophelia" at Düsseldorf and the "Satyr and Nymph" at Palermo. One of his most delightful free conceptions is the "Roundabout Dance," a group of a satyr and nymph holding between them a young satyr gorging grapes. This is a group for a fountain at Havana, and is an example of several pieces made by Nicolini in which the same subjects appear. This also has a notable architectural base, charmingly treated.

Nicolini is only one of many considerable Italian sculptors whose time is largely occupied in monumental work, and a survey leads to the conclusion that British sculptors should be encouraged publicly and privately to produce more works of this kind; not necessarily on a large scale, but works with a monumental and architectural character.



BRONZE GROUP FOR FOUNTAIN ON MARBLE BASE.
By GIOVANNI NICOLINI, Sculptor.

International Town Planning Conference.

An International Town Planning Conference has been arranged to take place at Amsterdam, Holland, from July 2 to 9, 1924, under the presidentship of Mr. Ebenezer Howard. The principal subjects to be discussed are (1) Regional Planning in Relation to Large Cities; (2) Parks, Park Systems and Recreation. Tours are to be made during the conference and the towns to be visited will include Rotterdam and The Hague. The Dutch Government has also been obliged to grant housing subsidies, and over 142,000 houses have been erected by State assistance since the beginning of 1918. Conference papers will be sent to delegates some weeks before the conference to enable them to read the papers and be in a good position to discuss the subject-matters. The fee for delegates is £1 each; for ladies accompanying delegates 10s. each. A final report of the conference will also be sent to each delegate. A specially selected international exhibition of plans, pictures and drawings dealing with the subjects under discussion at the conference is also to be organised. Amongst those who will read papers are the following:—"The Modern Town," by J. Granpré Molière, C.E., Vice-President

of the Dutch Town Planning Council; "The Need for a Regional Plan," by Raymond Unwin, chief housing architect to the British Ministry of Health; "The Preliminary Survey of a Region," by Patrick Abercrombie, Professor of Civic Design, University of Liverpool.

On the Regional Plan a paper will be read entitled "General Features," by Léon Jaussely, chief architect to the French Government, Professor at the School of Fine Arts, Paris. Other papers on the Location of Commercial, Industrial and Housing Areas, Drainage, Open Spaces, Transportation, will be read by men who have devoted much time and study to the different subjects.

On the subject of Parks, Park Systems and Recreation, papers will be presented by H. V. Hubbard, Professor of Landscape Architecture, Harvard University, U.S.A.; Jacques Gréber, Professor at the Paris School of Higher Civics, and H. Cleyndert Azn, Dutch Society for the Preservation of National Beauty Spots.

Saturday, July 5, will be devoted by the conference in making a study tour of Amsterdam. On July 6 a study tour of Amsterdam suburbs and neighbouring towns, which it is hoped will include Utrecht. Monday, July 7, study tour of The Hague. July 8, visit to Rotterdam. Meeting to be held in Rotterdam. Wednesday, July 9, study tour of Rotterdam and Delft. The conference headquarters will be at Amsterdam from July 2. On the evening of the 6th they will be removed to The Hague (Scheveningen). Fuller particulars can be obtained from Mr. H. Chapman, Organising Secretary, International Garden Cities and Town Planning Federation, 3 Gray's Inn Place, London, W.C.1.

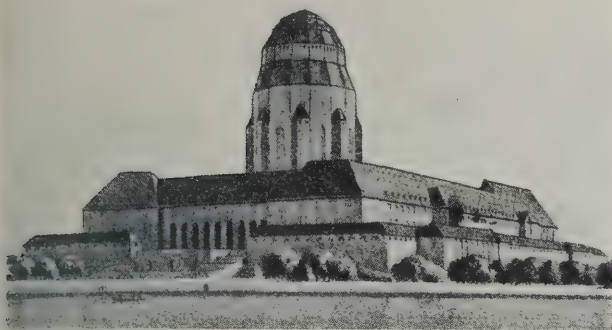
"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MARCH 28, 1874.

The construction of dwellings for the poor is one of the subjects to which the benevolent are constantly directing their attention; but it would be well to remember that this must always remain in the main a work to be accomplished rather by investors, or even speculators, than by the wealthy friends of the poor. It is not possible for all the poor of London, or even any considerable number of them, to be provided for by the most energetic, wealthy, and active benevolence. The dwellings built by associations and individuals must always remain in fact, as they are for the most part in name, model dwellings. An example may be set by model dwellings in two very different ways. It is possible to build them so as to show what would be the best and most comfortable dwelling a London working man can be provided with, regardless of all other considerations, so it is possible to build a model upon which a good dwelling can be so built as to yield a fair return. There is a good deal to be said for each plan. The Peabody trustees may be supposed to have followed the first. They have lately issued a report in which they show that, contenting themselves with a return of about 2½ per cent., they have invested more than a quarter of a million of money in dwellings for about 900 families. This is not an example which a speculator can follow—but the trustees may fairly say, "London dwellings are so bad that we think it our duty to show what good dwellings carefully built are, and we leave it to others to follow our example as far as they can." This, at any rate, is what these trustees, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, and several societies have in effect done; we believe it is not the wisest policy, but it is intelligible. Sir Sidney Waterlow, on the other hand, has always aimed at making his dwellings attractive models to investors by showing that they secure a steady return at a moderate interest. This, we take it, is the wiser course. We hear that Mr. Christian is engaged superintending some model dwellings for the London poor for that very practical philanthropist Miss Hill. This lady's earlier undertakings have, we are informed, all proved remunerative investments. We shall wait with some interest to learn in which sense these new buildings, which are in a very poor part of London, will have to be considered as model dwellings.

The Dunfermline District Committee of Fife County Council has approved of the plans of 134 houses, consisting of 28 two-apartment and 96 three-apartment houses. These houses are all being erected at Saline on behalf of the Wilsons and Clyde Coal Co., Ltd., who are connected with extensive mining developments in the district. The Committee further approved of the company's request for a subsidy in connection with the erection of these houses, which it is estimated will amount to £11,840.

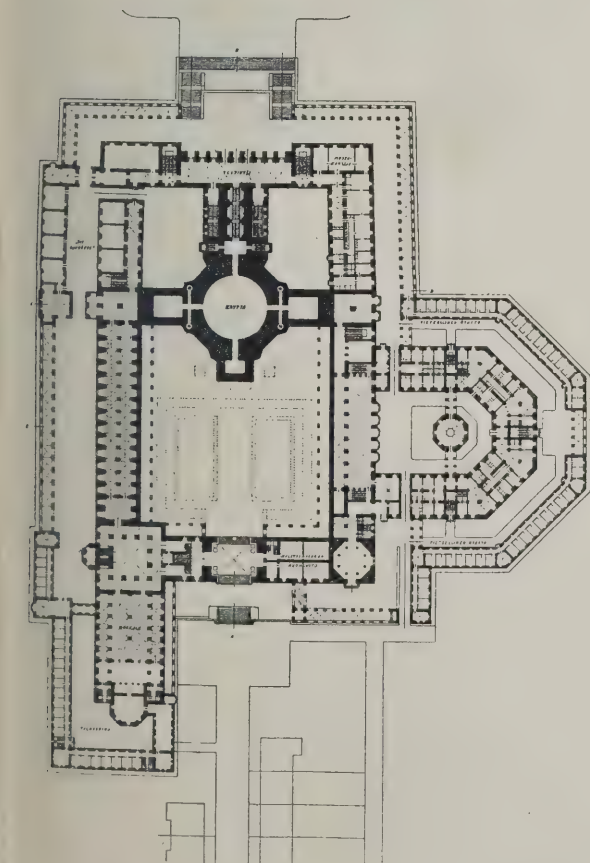
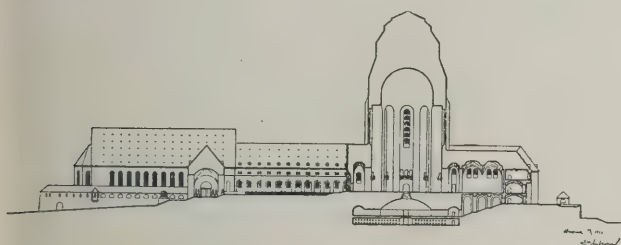
The Personnel of the Architectural Profession.



ELIEL SAARINEN KALEVALAGAARDEN HELSINGFORS,

Anyone who has been associated with the architectural profession is often struck with the vast differences existing between one architect and another; and if he is at all philosophical, he will commence to make comparisons, and endeavour to weave out of the facts that he has collected a kind of science that will throw some light upon the "personale" of the profession.

How the architect will receive you at his office is an unknown factor. His manner may be entirely the reverse from when you saw him last. To-day he is suspicious, exclusive and formal; yesterday he was confiding, open and cordial. These compose some of the puzzling temperamental and other incomprehensible incongruities that confound the visitor and send him away discouraged and downhearted.



In trying to respond to the exactions of a composite profession (as the architectural profession appears to be) the architect is buffeted from all quarters, and his stock of patience necessarily becomes depleted. He probably has heard that patience is a virtue. Clients and builders try his temper, inconsiderate travellers his courtesy. This is quite enough to try a saint, if it were all, but it is only part of his trials. Voluminous correspondence and telephonic communications add to an already harassed life. No longer be surprised, then, if when you call the architect is not of yesterday, that he meets your outstretched hand with lowering eyes and responds to your greeting with a surly rejoinder.

One can, after reviewing the above facts, pity him and extend in his direction much cordial sympathy. This should appeal to all callers—especially travellers and if you are the third one, call in a doctor, and if the fourth, heaven receive you! Everyone should remember that an architect is not a kind of general dealer, but an artist, and his soul, if he has one, is, or should be, more in the transcendental realms of artistic imagery than the money bags of mundane spheres.

The saddest part of it is that this soul, from the celestial heights, looks longingly down at a drawing board and T-square (companions of years of struggle) blotted out with builders' accounts, schedules of prices, catalogues or correspondence. To be harassed day by day, totting up columns of figures, or doubting the honesty of this or that builder, is hurtful to one in whose hands has been thrust the pen in place of the pencil. Oh, how he envies those of his assistants enjoying unruffled peace, placidly gliding from morning to evening, enjoying undisturbed contemplation, the very quintessence of meditation and serene enjoyment! It seems a meagre reward after success has been achieved. Indomitable energy and strain have triumphed in the end, perseverance has scaled the slippery heights of fame, and just when he hoped to quaff deeply at the inexhaustible and immortal font of inspiration (at such towering heights) he is doomed—to what?

But no architect can to-day soar beyond the physical for long. Even though for a spell he seizes his pencil and sweeps aside the encumbrances from his drawing board and cobwebs and dust from his square and instruments, and begins interpreting his inner voice in terms of art as of yore, he receives a rude awakening. Can you wonder at his exacerbation? Just as we become irascible when, from a sweet morning dream, the milkman's bell awakens us to physical consciousness, so the architect becomes irritable when his mind is rudely dragged from the ideal to the realities of the very present.

Thus the modern architect who has achieved cannot give undivided attention to his art. He no longer can devote hours of silent contemplation and embody his imagination in some external creation. Realities in bricks and mortar are much too evident. Therefore to many an architect his art may appear a thing lacking the life he is unable to bestow, or he may feel his art soul growing cold and stony like the material in which he is trying to embody his thought.

Many great men suffer in silence and hide their feelings under a cloak of indifference. But all contemplative professions are lonely. Like an ardent lover, an architect must be secluded whilst adoring his ladylove. Those who would contemplate must be alone—it is the penalty. All creators in thought have been individualists and withdraw themselves, if they are able, from worldly encumbrances. Therefore, though inwardly he may be hot and ecstatic when at one with his higher parts, he is, without, regarded as cold and formal. The profession from this alone is composed of a number of exclusive units that naturally are difficult to blend. Each is a law unto himself. An architect has his own ideas relating to his art around which he weaves a shroud of mystery. This is another reason why the atmosphere of the profession is at best a cold and cheerless one that can be felt by sensitive people at such



DECORATIVE PANEL ON THE PREMISES OF MESSRS. JOHN BRINSMEAD & SONS, LONDON.

GILBERT BAYES, Sculptor.



DECORATIVE PANEL.

GILBERT BAYES, Sculptor.

places where the craft foregather, and though art recognises no social distinctions and is all-embracing, non-exclusive, free as the air we breathe, and though when we invoke art we are seeking divine grace, the social thermometer of the profession could do with a warmer breath.

In drawing this "Apologia" to a conclusion, in which the architect's most esoteric longings have been—perhaps for the first time—clearly analysed, it remains to be said whether this is answerable for the lack of motion in modern architecture. Perhaps, if extended moments of adoration were vouchsafed, a national spirit would be breathed into the old Adam and a fresh tree of knowledge set up, from which he could pluck the good fruit and leave the stale; otherwise Eden will ever close her gates and Adam remain with his head bowed to the dust.

J. E. REID.

Low Relief Decorations executed in Cement.

Last year Messrs. John Brinsmead & Sons, pianoforte makers, acquired No. 17 Cavendish Square, which was built by the Adam Brothers. Until recently this house was the residence of the Earl of Bessborough.

The ground landlords at the time of the purchase by Messrs. Brinsmead & Sons, we are informed, imposed certain restrictions with the idea of preserving the character of the square. The private house character on the elevation facing the square has been retained. No. 17 is a corner house having a front facing Wigmore Street and another elevation facing Cavendish Square. The Wigmore Street front has been the subject of considerable alterations, amongst which some charming decorative panels by Mr. Gilbert Bayes, sculptor, play no inconspicuous part. We illustrate one of the three upright panels which represent Music, Art and Science, and a portion of a long horizontal panel which illustrates an orchestra composed of children. All these panels have been carried out in low relief and executed in cement, which has afterwards been painted. The figures are in cream whilst the background is painted red which together harmonise admirably with the rest of the decorations of the premises.

The Ilford Urban District Council passed the plans for two houses in The Drive, six houses in St. Luke's Avenue, eight houses in Norman Terrace, Ilford Lane, six houses in Chaucer Gardens 29 houses in Ethelbert Gardens.

The Liverpool Corporation passed the plans for a bungalow and garage in Orchard Lane, 23 houses in Holly Field Road, two houses in Sinclair Drive, four houses in Wavertree Nook Road, 18 houses in Greenhill Avenue, eight houses in Courtland Road, 25 houses in Whitehedge Road, four houses in Warnerville Road, 52 houses in Stanley Gardens, 10 houses in Queen's Drive, 14 houses in Derby Lane, 11 houses in Corinthian Avenue 32 in Florantine Road, seven in Pallaviz Road, 10 houses in Dacre Road.

The Oldham Town Council passed the plans for 50 houses at Greenacres.



Preserving timber with SOLIGNUM at Bush House, Kingsway

All the wooden floor joists, battens, bearers, etc.,
used in the new Bush Building, Kingsway, are being
dipped in **SOLIGNUM** before fixing

This is the best possible insurance against dry rot and decay



205 BOROUGH HIGH STREET, S.E.1

Design of New Lambeth Bridge.

The London County Council this week approved the design of the new Lambeth Bridge, which has been prepared by the chief engineer and architect of the Council, in collaboration with Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A.

It is proposed that the bridge shall be one of five steel arches faced with granite and supported on granite piers, the arches being elliptical in outline. The centre span will be 152 feet, and the remaining four 146 feet each. A headway of 20 feet above high water is being provided for in the central arch, whilst the width of the roadway "between parapets" will be 60 feet and the gradients on the bridge and approaches about 1 in 30. The whole line of the bridge will be one uninterrupted curve and the parapet will be solid. At each end of the bridge there will be some "decorative effect," but its exact character has not yet been decided upon. The Improvements Committee of the L.C.C. state that, in their opinion, "the proposed treatment, which is simple, will give the desired architectural effect." The Bill will come before a Select Committee of the House of Lords at an early date.

South Wales Institute of Architects. Annual General Meeting, March 20, 1924.

The Thirty-Fourth Annual General Meeting of the South Wales Institute of Architects was held at the Institute Rooms, No. 6 High Street, Cardiff, yesterday evening, when there was a large and representative attendance of Architects from the whole of South Wales. The President addressed the gathering on the work which had been accomplished during the past twelve months, and particularly with reference to the amalgamation of the two leading Architectural Bodies in the country, the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Society of Architects, which it is hoped will take place very shortly. The Honorary Treasurer (Mr. Harry Teather, F.R.I.B.A.) presented the Balance Sheet which showed the Institute to be in a very strong financial position. On the proposition of Mr. C. F. Ward, F.R.I.B.A. (Newport), seconded by Mr. H. C. Portsmouth, F.S.Arc. (Swansea), Mr. Percy Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., was unanimously re-elected as President for a third term of office. The following officers were elected:—

Vice-Presidents:—C. F. Ward, F.R.I.B.A., H. C. Portsmouth, F.S.Arc. Hon. Treasurer: H. Teather, F.R.I.B.A. Hon. Auditor: C. S. Thomas, F.S.Arc. Hon. Librarian: C. H. Kempthorne, Lic.R.I.B.A. Hon. Secretary: Ivor P. Jones, A.R.I.B.A.

Members of Council:—A. G. Edwards, M.S.A., J. P. D. Grant, A.R.I.B.A., W. S. Purchon, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., R. H. Winder, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., F. H. Heaven, A.R.I.B.A., T. Alwyn Lloyd, F.R.I.B.A., J. B. Wride, C. F. Jones, A.R.I.B.A., J. Williamson, A.R.I.B.A., Central Branch. J. Herbert Jones, F.S.Arc., G. R. H. Rogers, E. E. Morgan, A.R.I.B.A., O. S. Portsmouth, A.R.I.B.A., Glendinning Moxham, F.R.I.B.A., Western Branch. Horace Jones, F. Swash, F.R.I.B.A., Eastern Branch. G. Vincent Evans, Lic.R.I.B.A., J. Llewellyn Smith, Lic.R.I.B.A., Jacob Rees, M.S.A., Northern Branch. *Associates' Representatives*:—L. S. Hatchard, Central Branch; G. L. Crocker, Western Branch; J. E. Lenton, Eastern Branch; B. T. Jones, Northern Branch.

Trade Note.

Messrs. Gillett & Johnston, Croydon, the well-known bell-founders and tower clock makers, secured the order last year for the bells for the Rockefeller Memorial Carillon, New York. Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, Jun., visited their foundry during the summer and was so interested in the possibilities of the harmonically tuned bells that they now manufacture that he decided to make his carillon both the largest and the most perfect in the world, and negotiations have just been completed between this firm and Mr. Rockefeller for increasing the size of the carillon; it is now to consist of 53 bells, the heaviest of these weighing 9 tons, and will be the largest in the world, that at Malines, with 45 bells and a 7½ ton bass bell, changing from first to second position in the world's celebrated carillons. Before Mr. Rockefeller placed the original contract he secured the services of one of the most able musicians in the United States and sent him through the bell foundries of America, Europe and England, studying the methods and hearing examples of the latest work of all the best foundries, so that this world-famous carillon may be taken as representing the most perfect set of bells that it is possible to procure. The tower in which these bells were to be placed is a church in Park Avenue, New York, but as it was not large enough to contain these unusually

heavy bells, alterations are being made in the shape of an additional campanile of Gothic stone tracery which will contain the eight largest bells of the carillon. These alterations are being carried out to the plans and under the superintendence of H. C. Pelton, Esq., New York, the architect who built the church two years ago.

Shop Window Illumination.



A branch of illuminating engineering which has made great strides during the past few years is that of shop window illumination. Both as regards the planning of installations and the design of suitable fittings, considerable progress has been made and the lighting in the windows of practically every large store and of an increasing number of smaller shops is of a high order of excellence and bears eloquent testimony not only to the skill of the illuminating expert, but also to the enterprise of the shop-keepers themselves. It is scarcely necessary to emphasise the importance of the shop window as a publicity medium, for it is due entirely to the recognition of this fact that as much care and skill are expended upon window lighting as is devoted to the illumination of a theatre or a picture gallery.

Modern practice is, in almost every instance, to install a row of lighting units on the ceiling of the window, close to the glass, the lamps being equipped with specially designed reflectors and the whole concealed by a valance or pelmet.

Of the various types of reflector produced for this purpose, the most popular are the individual units, each arranged to accommodate one lamp. The "Gecoray" reflectors, recently introduced by the General Electric Co., Ltd., and illustrated, come under this category. They represent the latest development in window lighting equipment, and when equipped with the specified sizes of Osram gasfilled lamps for which they are specially designed, form units of the highest possible efficiency.

The reflectors themselves are of best quality crystal glass with scientifically designed contours to give a correct distribution of the light, and they are fluted to aid diffusion. The reflecting surface is double plated with pure silver, backed with a heavy deposit of pure copper electro plated on by a special process which assures the permanency of the silver. The reflectors are green enamel on the outside, and stoved at 200° F., which gives a permanent finish. "Gecoray" reflectors are guaranteed not to tarnish, check, or peel if the reflectors are used with the lamps specified and care is taken that the lamp does not touch the reflector.

"Gecoray" reflectors are admirably adapted for providing colour lighting effects in the window, for by an ingenious device colour screens can be clipped on and held in position between two rings with restraining wires stretched across the openings of each ring.

This device is illustrated. Four standard sizes of "Gecoray" reflectors have been produced, suitable for 60 watt and 100 watt Osram gasfilled lamps and for different types of windows. Full particulars and prices are given in an attractive folder, No. F. 3,079, issued by the G.E.C., copies of which may be obtained on application to Magnet House, Kingsway, W.C.2, or at any of the company's provincial branches.

The Meriden Rural District Council has approved of the plans for the rebuilding of the George and Dragon Hotel, Colleshill.

New school premises are to be built at Askern to accommodate 750 pupils.

The plans for ten houses to be erected by private builders were passed by the Rowley Regis Urban District Council.

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The Architecture of the Southern States.*

We have been interested in an article which has appeared in the "Architectural Record" of New York, on the architecture of the Southern States of the American Union. The South represented an English aristocracy relying on the services of negro slaves, whereas the Northern States were fundamentally more democratic and cosmopolitan in their origin. The early types of Colonial architecture in the two sections of the country were often sharply differentiated, that of the North being founded more exclusively on the

The War of Secession and the ruin and impoverishment which followed in its train put an end to a society which was aristocratic and patriarchal in its character, and until new influences had time to assert themselves the Southern States passed through a period of stagnation.

But the exploitation of coal in Alabama, and oil in Texas, and the numerous commercial developments which followed in their train, coupled with the exploitation of great tracts of the South-West Coast line as holiday resorts, are rapidly altering conditions in the South, and with them stimulating the building industry. The smaller costs of labour as compared with those of the Northern States, and the more plentiful supply of building materials, supplies another factor which is having a marked effect on building development. Building costs in the Southern States are 24·7 lower than in the cities of the North. The principal items of building materials are generally produced throughout the South, especially common lumber bricks and hollow tiles. Freight rates are naturally lower, and the labour involved less than in other sections. Cheaper living conditions, the absence of cold winters and ample man power all lead to much lower building costs. The money and work is available, and there is an increasing demand for first class professional men who are availing themselves of the new opportunities. The writer says :—

The Virginia Tidewater and South Carolina were the seat of some of the finest of the pre-Revolutionary or truly Colonial houses, marked by simple fenestration, with Georgian detail for doorways and cornices. These houses, of course, are well known, but they have entered more into the general body of Colonial tradition, and have thus found more imitation in New England and around New York than in any local following of their specially characteristic provincial traits.

More peculiar to the South is the Jeffersonian tradition, Palladian and Roman, which had its origin in the Virginia Capitol, the houses of Piedmont Virginia, and the University of Virginia. All these have the great portico of masonry with sturdy proportions and Palladian detail, and show a predilection for the simple form of the temple, which served alike for the public building, the church and the dwelling. It was not confined to Virginia, but spread down the Piedmont to Columbia and Georgia as well as across the mountains to Kentucky and Tennessee in the early years of the Republic.

Even more characteristic was the form which the Greek revival assumed as the typical architecture of the South in the antebellum period. Beginning at Arlington on the Potomac, it became the style of the Gulf States, where cotton was king. Here there was a special climatic relevance in the tall colonnades, often surrounding the entire house, as at Athens or Tuscaloosa.

In Florida and Texas, the oldest tradition is, of course, Spanish, even though the remains are not numerous, and in New Orleans there has always been a persistence of French and West Indian forms, which took on a local tinge in the many verandahed houses of the bayou plantations.

Even the Gothic is not without its specifically Southern versions in such early works as old Trinity or the Huguenot Church in Charleston, the buildings of the Virginia Military Institute, or at Milledgeville, Georgia.

We cannot fail to welcome it when, in the erection of new buildings the designers have tended to adhere to their local styles and types, rather than to transplant thoughtlessly the fashionable formulæ of the moment in the metropolitan centres of the North.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK, RICHMOND, VA.
CLINTON & RUSSELL AND ALFRED C. BOSSUM, Architects.

use of timber construction, and was more "foreign" in English eyes. In the South the greater use of brick and stone led to a much closer approach to the typical contemporary Georgian architecture of England.

* "Recent Architecture in the South," by Fiske Kimball, from the "Architectural Record" of New York, March.



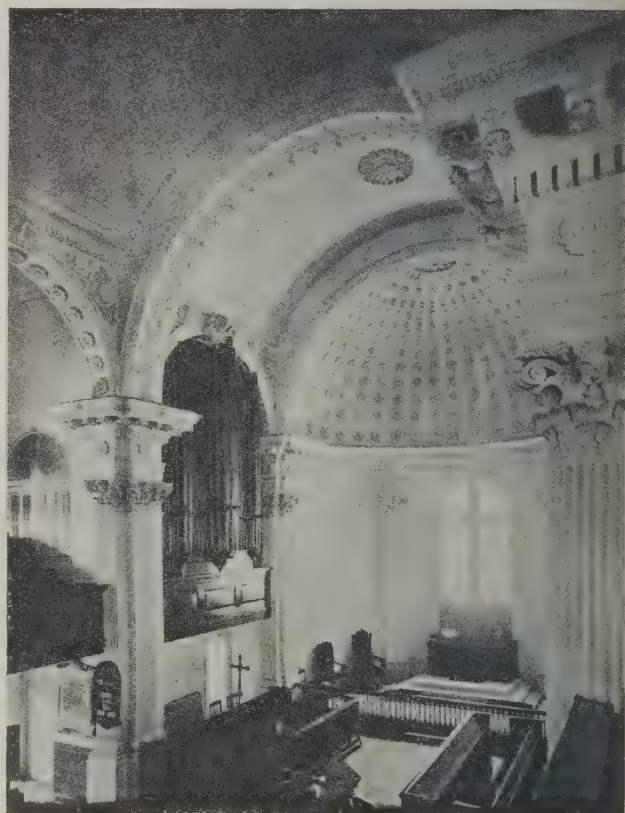
RESIDENCE OF JULIUS M. VISANSKA, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.
ALFRED SIMONS, Architect. SAMUEL LAPHAM, Jr., Associate.

Instances of this in domestic architecture have been regrettably rare. Even in Piedmont Virginia, where the example of Jefferson has ever remained a living force, not many fine examples of the great porticoed house of brick have been put up in the last few years, and gifted designers with a feeling for the style, like Eugene Bradbury of Charlottesville, have been forced by clients to adopt the English and other idioms of alien design.

Near New Orleans some particularly admirable work in the old spirit of the place has been done by Messrs. Armstrong and Koch. Tolerance for simplicity and recognition of beauty



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH E. JENKINS, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.
ALFRED SIMONS, Architect.



CHOIR AND CHANCEL, ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA
SIMONS & LAPHAM, Architects.

in old work, even when others might thoughtlessly condemn some of this as "Victorian," have brought their reward in their houses. In some of these, as also in Mr. Churchill's remodelling of the Van Wart house, the balconies, iron work, awnings, and even a marquise, have been handled with much understanding of native idiom.

In Charleston the firm of Simons and Lapham has done some charming Colonial work in which not only the details,

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"INK-PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD LONDON. E.C.3

HOUSE IN ARDEZ.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY CHR. MEISSER, ZURICH.



INK-Photo: W. BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

VILLAGE STREET OF ZUOZ, UPPER ENGADINE.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH BY ALBERT STEINER, ST. MORITZ.

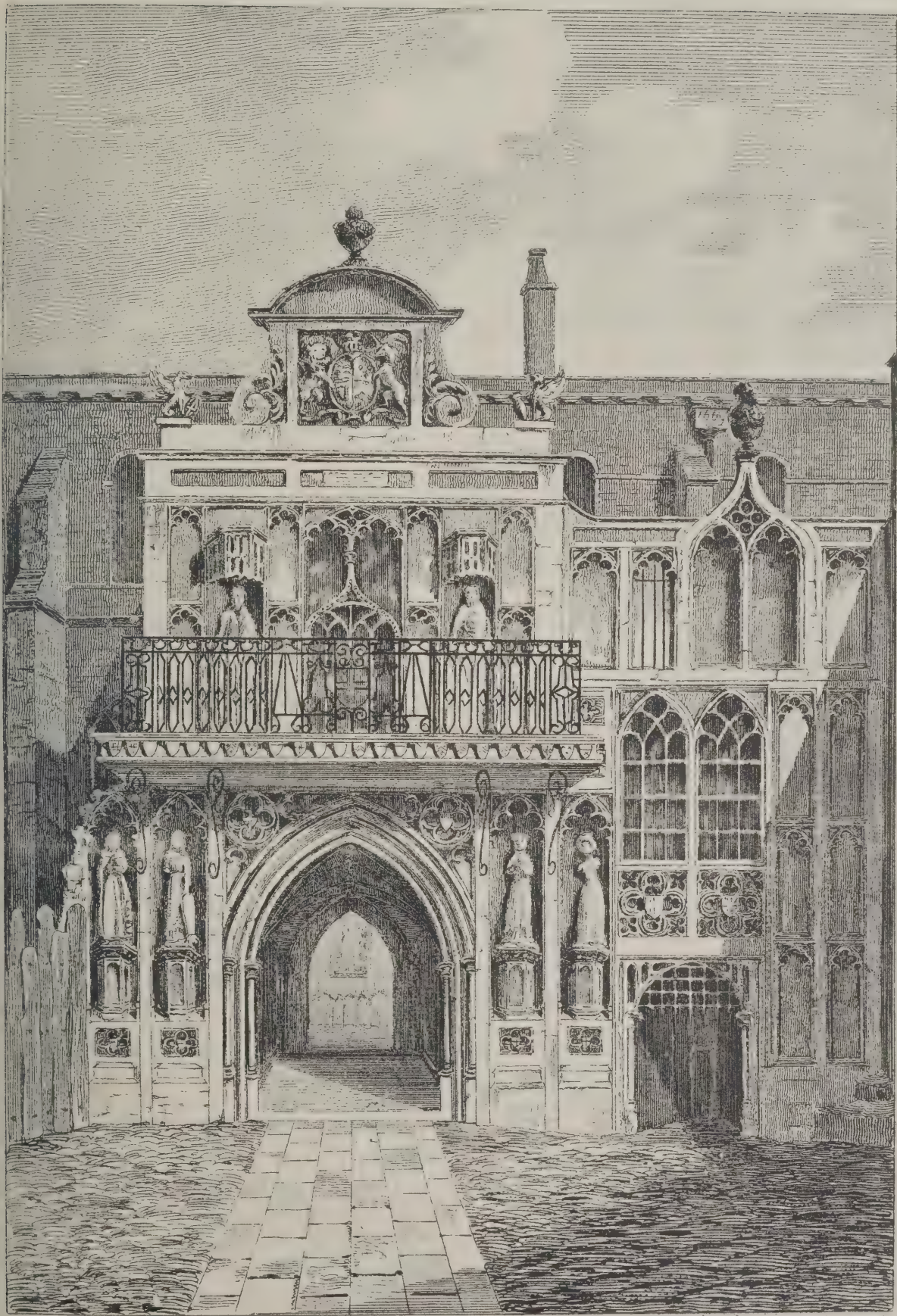
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VIEW OF THE COLLEGIATE CHAPEL OF ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ALL SAINTS, GUILDHALL, LONDON.

London, Published 1st Decr 1863, by Robert Wilkinson, N^o 38, Cornhill.



J. Schnebbelic, del. 1788.

G. Hollis, sculp.

OLD FRONT OF THE GUILDHALL, LONDON.

From a Drawing in the possession of Mr. Nichols.

Published by J. Nichols & Co Dec. 1. 1818.

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THE ARCHITECT, APRIL 4th, 1924.



INK PHOTO WM BROWN & CO LTD LONDON E C 3

THE CRYPT, GUILDHALL, LONDON.

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but also the peculiar types of plan native to the city, have been reverently and sympathetically handled.

Although with less specifically local flavour, the work of Messrs. Pringle and Smith in Atlanta and of Messrs. Warren, Knight and Davies of Birmingham, among the newer generation, is more than usually competent and interesting. The Erswell house at Birmingham well shows how foolish it is, when foundations need be only a foot deep, to repeat in the South the Northern suburban box.

In Florida, where the old cottages at Palm Beach and Miami are being rapidly replaced by ambitious villas, Spanish and Italian precedents are furnishing the inspiration.

Of specifically Southern types of old churches there are several: the small rural chapel like St. James, Goose Creek; the church with the steeple and portico as we see it at Charleston, massively executed in masonry; and the temple-church as inaugurated by Jefferson. Little regard is being paid to these in current work, on the whole, and with a few exceptions, such as the synagogue in Norfolk, the designs might be executed quite as appropriately to the north of Mason and Dixon's line. In some cases, however, charming results have been secured, with some local character at least in the details.

From an admirable collection of illustrations we have selected four, which show the quality of the work now being carried out under some of the best architects. Local traditions are less strongly marked than in the architecture of California, where the Spanish strain has had a very marked influence, and the opportunities given by the use of "adobe" have been fully utilised. We delight in the manner in which our colleagues in America rise to the opportunities they have, but at the same time we sometimes feel that many of our younger architects are too much inclined to follow American precedent here without realising that they cannot reasonably graft the outcome of a civilisation on to our older and dissimilar developments. But the restraint and simplicity which underlies the best American work may at the same time indicate an ideal to be aimed at though we should strive to reach the goal of achievement along a different pathway.

Our Illustrations.

HOUSE IN ARDEZ, SWITZERLAND.

VILLAGE STREET OF ZUOZ, UPPER ENGADINE.

VIEW OF THE COLLEGIATE CHAPEL OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN AND ALL SAINTS', GUILDHALL, LONDON.

OLD FRONT OF THE GUILDHALL, LONDON.

ORIGINAL MASONRY, GUILDHALL, LONDON.

THE CRYPT, GUILDHALL, LONDON.

Notes and Comments.

The Strike.

Although the tramway strike is settled, we are left with the uneasy feeling that the methods by which agreement has been reached may cause greater trouble in the end than a strike does. We are faced with the fact that men of other callings who had no grievance against their employers have been called out to enforce a settlement inconsistent with economic conditions, and what has happened now may prove a precedent for what may occur in the near future. The leaders of these movements are probably of opinion that if they can squeeze the employers sufficiently hard, they can squeeze them out of business, and that their place will be taken by the State. In this we believe that are entirely wrong, and if pressure is exerted on these lines, the last state of the worker may be worse than the present one. We may reasonably ask what the tramway men's position would be had the County Council and other employers acknowledged what is probably the truth, that tramways in London do not pay, and scrapped the whole service? It is true that they would have had to write off an enormous amount of capital, but in the end this might be more economical than attempting to make two ends meet, when it is clear that they cannot be made to meet with satisfaction to all parties. It is often said that half a loaf is better than no bread, but in many trades men are not very willing to accept this self-evident axiom.]

The St. Paul's Bridge Scheme.

Whatever the merits and objections to the proposed Charing Cross Bridge may be, it may be fairly said that the St. Paul's Bridge scheme has been almost universally condemned as being both unnecessary and ill-advised. But it appears that the Government is disposed to make a contribution to the cost of this scheme, and action is to be taken to prevent such a course being adopted. Looking at the whole matter from a broad standpoint we believe we might say that if the circumstances of the time make it impossible to come to a final decision on the Charing Cross Bridge project on the score of expense, these same objections should put a stop for the time being to any new bridge scheme, and the question should be left *in statu quo* for a more auspicious occasion. But to build a bridge the need

of which is, to say the least, very doubtful, simply because the Bridge House Estate can supply a large part of the requisite cost, would be to act in a needless hurry in a matter which has been insufficiently thrashed out. It may be said that the tramway strike has very largely taken place because the authorities concerned insisted on extending the tramway services in London, while it is now generally admitted that other means of transport are more suitable for the special conditions which obtain.

Expert Advice.

Commenting on the question of expert advice in matters relating to building, "Municipal Engineering and the Sanitary Record" says:—

A case, which is of somewhat wide interest, came under our notice recently. A system of central heating was required for a fairly extensive building and the proprietor was undecided as to whether it would be preferable to retain an independent consulting engineer, who was an expert in such work, to design the scheme and obtain tenders, or whether to ask heating contractors to prepare their own schemes and tenders. There is one outstanding point which was overlooked, and that is that one of the most important functions of the independent engineer is to safeguard the interests of his employer and hold the balance fairly between the employer and the contractor; to ensure that the employer gets what he is paying for, and to see that the contractor is paid for what he does and is not imposed upon or interfered with in the execution of his work. In cutting out avoidable expenditure and in controlling extras an engineer can generally save his client a greater sum than is represented by his commission. It is true that one could send to half-a-dozen contractors and get as many estimates, but each would differ materially in detail and probably be based on different schemes. In such cases the client is usually unable to determine which tender gives the best value for money, or to appraise the probability of the desired results being obtained, and frequently the tenders are handed over to independent consulting engineers, who have to go completely into the whole problem before they are able to advise which tender is the best to accept. The fact that contractors make no specific charge for preparing schemes and submitting tenders by no means indicates that the client does not pay for it. Because so many people go direct to them the contractors have to keep a highly-skilled technical staff engaged solely on designing. They may prepare twenty schemes before one tender is accepted, and that one accepted tender has to carry the overhead charges of the preparation of the other nineteen. The client therefore pays, and pays heavily, for the preparation of the scheme. The system has become established principally because usually architects have not the experience

and ability to design the heating plant for the buildings they are employed upon, and they often turn the whole business over to the heating contractor, merely supervising the work and drawing their commission on it. This still further increases the cost to the client. It is difficult to say why such a system should have been allowed to grow. If a man wants a house built he employs an architect to design it and safeguard his interests; he does not ask the builder to design and build. Similarly, if a man is ill he will generally go to a doctor for advice and a prescription; he would rarely rely upon the diagnosis and prescription of a chemist, however well qualified.

We believe that most competent architects in such matters follow the reasonable practice of engaging the services of consulting engineers where large matters are concerned, either by arrangement with their clients or independently; or where the matter is small of going to a manufacturing firm on whose advice they know by experience they can rely. Architects are quite aware of the fact that the plans and data got out by competing firms increase the cost of those tenders, but most of them have too much experience in technical work to endeavour themselves to lay down the lines and details of what properly belong to the work of an independent profession.

The Advantages of Self Help.

We came across a builder's foreman recently who desired to build himself a house and bought a plot of land for it. He was anxious to get to work quickly, and said that he would complete the house within six weeks. We expressed surprise at the shortness of the time, but he said that he had all his windows and doors ready, and would with his own labour and that of his friends get his house—designed by an architect—up in the time mentioned. This shows, we think, what can be done by men who are working for themselves and not for an employer, and also shows the advantage of getting men to help themselves. Work done under such conditions is cheap work and such a house will prove a far more saleable piece of property than a similar house built under usual conditions, because it can be sold at a price which is sure to attract purchasers.

Waterloo Bridge.

Sir Reginald Blomfield writes a very reasonable letter to "The Times" on the subject of the proposed reconstruction of Waterloo Bridge, and the violent criticisms with which the suggestion that it will have to be reconstructed has been met. He pays tribute to its architectural quality, and says that it is probably the most beautiful bridge ever constructed, but engineering opinion is that it is impracticable to deal with the subsidence in the pier between the fifth and sixth arches which has been caused by the increased scour of the tide caused by the embankment. They therefore consider that the only course open is to reconstruct the bridge and if this is done it would be absurd not to make provision for the changed conditions of traffic. This would logically mean a new design and much as we should all regret the disappearance of the bridge, the reasonable course would be to try to replace it by something of equal merit. We can condemn many things if we shut our eyes to the facts which bear on them, but to do so is only to engage in futile controversy. As Sir Reginald says, this matter cannot wait until the question of Charing Cross Bridge is decided, nor can we see that the building of a bridge at Charing Cross has any bearings on the defects of Waterloo Bridge.

Subsidy Housing.

"The Illustrated Carpenter and Builder" published on March 28 a very useful and interesting issue, devoted entirely to subsidy bungalows, cottages and small houses. Too many suggestions can hardly be published on this subject, and the collection issued in the above journal should solve many problems for those who are interested in this subject. The cottage of Mr. Gordon Allen, architect, at Bledlow Ridge, Bucks, and the illustrations of the work of Mr. Alfred N. Potter, architect, are worthy of special note. The issue also includes an article on the Housing Subsidy in relation to the planning of eligible houses and making application to the proper authorities in respect to matters relative to subsidy grants.

Correspondence.

Abusing the Great.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—I should be glad if you would allow me to congratulate you on your article regarding the late Norman Shaw and his work. There is nothing surprising in the attitude of the younger generation. It is the inevitable reaction, the past hundred years, after a great architect's work is done, is the danger time when so much, that will afterward be regretted, is nearly always destroyed. To those who have reached a certain age there is much that is interesting, if sad, in the present reaction. I can remember the late Francis Bedford remarking that every young architect had tried for an interview with Norman Shaw. It was in fact the goal of ability. I had the privilege of an introduction through clients of his, and had the sense to take a selection of work with me, and the interview was one of those that remain in my memory. Further, I had the privilege of seeing him at home, and hearing his talk was artistic education in the best sense. A fellow student, who had been at some rare reception where he was present, remarked to me next day that what had impressed him was the desire of all those present to converse with Shaw. Men of that type are always greater than their work, fine as it may be. Personally, I always regretted that at the end of his life he gave his name to work for which he was not entirely responsible. He said: "When I was young I had little to do, and now I am old they will not let me alone." There is a distinction between the Piccadilly front of the hotel and the Regent Street façade, the latter has never seemed to a good many an adequate solution of the peculiar problem of the quadrant. The late Henry Hare in his frank way said that he thought Shaw had done architects a bad turn in that respect, but the general condemnation of his work, which prevails in some quarters, is a mere reaction before his work takes its final place in the history of English architecture. How English his work was is shown by Cesar Daly's comment on "New Scotland Yard" that he generally liked English work, but could not understand that Shaw and Nesfield between them were the undoubted founders of Modern Domestic Architecture, and nothing that could be said will affect the greatness of their work. Phené Spiers, who understood the history of architecture, used to refer to Shaw's New Zealand shipping offices in Leadenhall Street as the sensation of the time and the epoch-marking work of the new school. He further said, "I had often drawn old work but I had never realised the use that could be made of it." To him it was a logical work, based on a true appreciation of the problem presented, and as such a true piece of architecture.—Yours sincerely,

AN OLD STUDENT.

17, Cavendish Square.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—With reference to your paragraph *re* the above in your issue dated March 28, we should like to say that we were architects for this building and that we were responsible for the whole scheme of decoration.—Yours, etc.,

T. P. BENNETT & HOSSACK.

R.I.B.A. Award for London Buildings.

The Jury under the Chairmanship of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres which is to award the medal given annually by the Royal Institute of British Architects for the best street frontage completed during the year ending December 31, 1923, is now engaged in considering the merits of the buildings which have been recommended for the award. It is expected that the Jury's decision will be announced at an early date.

R.I.B.A. Diploma in Town Planning.

The examination for the R.I.B.A. Diploma in Town Planning will be held for the first time on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 15, 16 and 17, and on Monday, October 20, 1924.

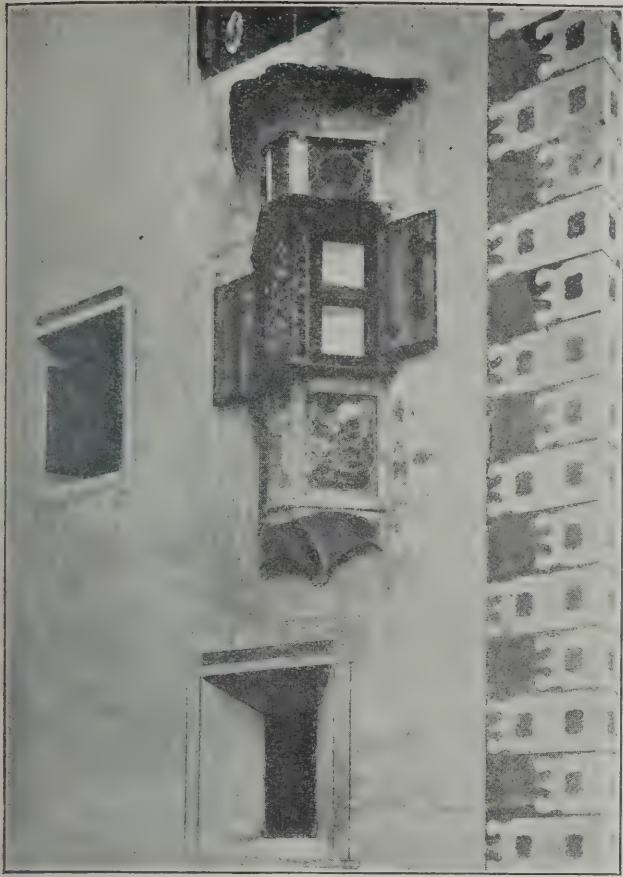
Candidates applying for admission must be with Fellows, Associates or Licentiates of the R.I.B.A., and applications must be made before May 31, 1924.

Forms of application for admission containing the Regulations and Syllabus may be obtained at the R.I.B.A.

R.I.B.A. Intermediate Examination.

The Intermediate Examination will be held on May 23, 26, 27, and 29, 1924. The closing date for receiving forms of application and testimonies of study is April 25.

EVERARD J. HAYNES,
Secretary, Board of Architectural Education.



DETAIL OF A HOUSE AT CELERINA.
ALBERT STEINER, St. Moritz, Photographer.

Architectural Exhibitions.

During the past weeks we have again been visiting regular exhibitors to the Architectural Room at the Royal Academy Spring Exhibition. Some very fine drawings have been sent in this year and the show should prove a great attraction to visitors. We are glad to see that the architectural profession as a whole is asserting itself and that every opportunity is being taken to contribute representative collections to the various exhibitions that have been and are being organised this year. Wembley should contain an architectural exhibition the like of which has never been seen in this country before. The general public is appreciative, and through this enterprise of the architectural profession foreign visitors to Wembley will undoubtedly take away with them a far better vision of England and its architecture. At Wembley visitors will see photographs of our best architectural designs. A visitor passing through the streets of London has his interest so divided that the architectural impression is blurred. At Wembley the visitor will have his mind prepared for what to see and for what not to remember. Many are prone to say that London contains very few really beautiful buildings. Unfortunately, many of our gems of architecture are so surrounded with buildings that it is almost impossible to dissociate them mentally from these surroundings. Continental and colonial cities have been able to plan their public buildings with gardens in proper keeping with their architectural dignity. Such opportunities have not occurred often in London. Thus the effort made by the profession to send a really fine representative collection of architectural photographs is a very wise and worthy enterprise.

The Northallerton Rural District Council received and passed the plans for 17 houses; connected with all of these are applications for subsidy grants.

The Stafford Corporation Estates and Works Committee passed the plans for 54 houses to be erected on the Stychfields Estate. These houses are being erected for the English Electric Co., Ltd.

The Urban District Council of Stretford passed the plans for four houses in Talbot Road, four in Gorse Lane, three in Burleigh Street, 111 houses in Marlborough Road.

Fifty maisonettes are to be erected at Balkwell; the plans have been prepared by the Tynemouth Housing Architect.

Book Reviews.

Most design and art masters of to-day view with a sense of regret the wonderful display of books that is available to the present generation.

Of recent times the production of books of reference for designers, students, and all lovers of decorative art has been specially great. Publishers have also realised that it is necessary to include unique illustrations of examples not previously published in addition to the well-known designs.

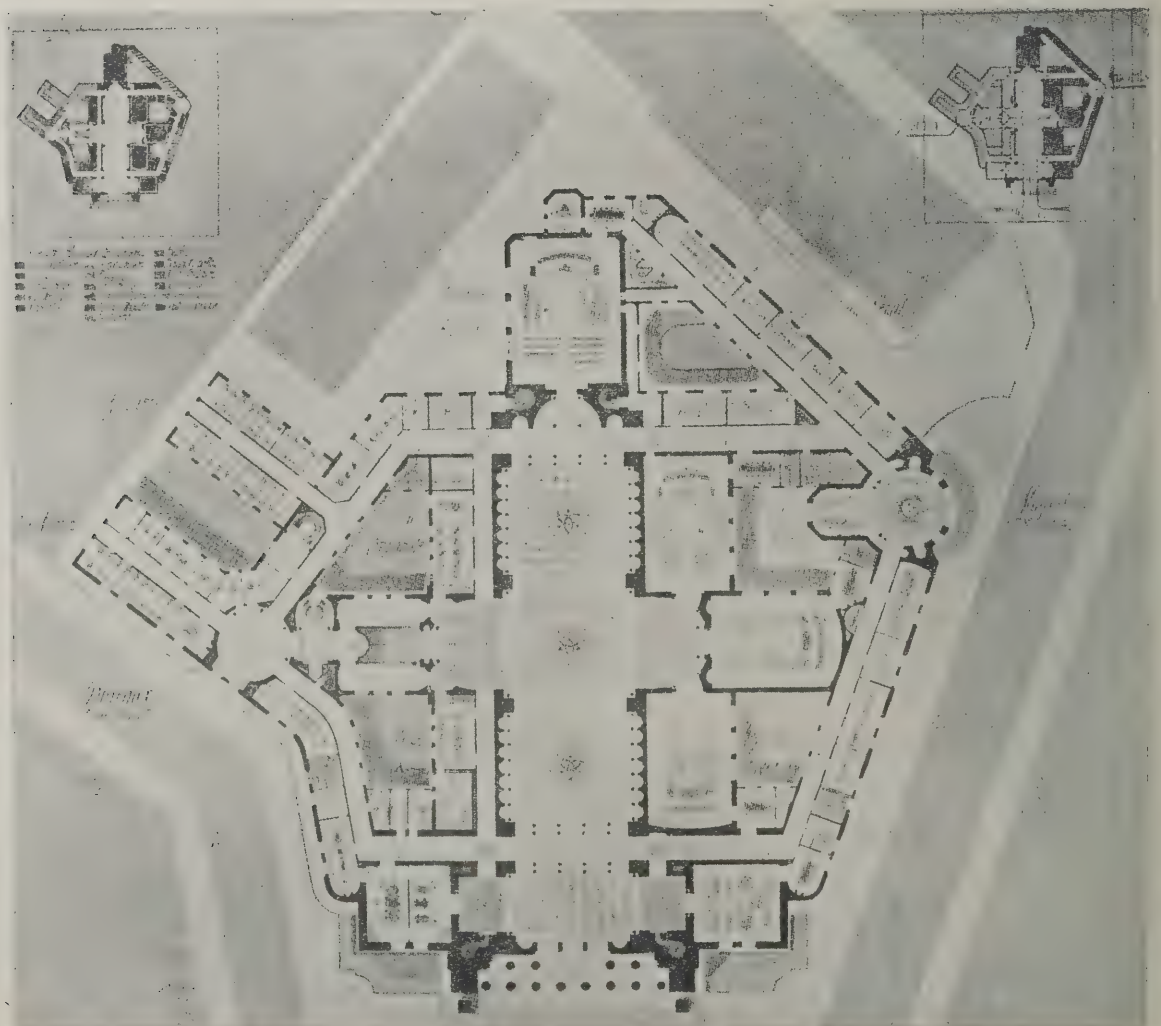
We have before us three books published by Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., 94 High Holborn, W.C.—Speltz's "Styles of Ornament," 20s. net; Hamlin's "History of Ornament," 24s.; and Lewis F. Day's "Pattern Design," 10s. 6d. net. "The Styles of Ornament," by Alexander Speltz, architect, translated from the second German edition, revised and edited by R. Phené Spiers, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., deals with the styles of ornament from prehistoric times to the middle of the nineteenth century. The aim of the author has been to arrange the selected 3,500 illustrations in historical order, with a descriptive text. There can be no doubt but that his book is of considerable value as giving a correct indication as to the characteristic features of the different styles of ornament. Great care has been exercised to render these characteristic features as clearly as possible, so as to enable a designer to use the data with a sense of reliance. It is hardly possible to overdo this careful rendering of details, because it is through the truthful adaptation of the characteristic features that modern designers are able to create to-day correct period work. Books which do not consider this very necessary fact are of little value for reference purposes. The illustrations all through the volume have been carefully selected so as to leave no doubt as to their particular style. The transitional period examples have been carefully eliminated. The section dealing with Greek ornament is very well illustrated, and the letterpress includes points of historical facts in connection with the illustrations, as well as a word description of their special characteristics. These notes are kept as close to the illustrations as possible, which arrangement greatly facilitates reference. Each period is introduced by a note which aims at describing the historical events which led to the creation of the particular style under review.

Chapters on the Renaissance occupy 170 pages and deal very minutely with this subject. First an introductory note introduces the Renaissance in Italy in the fifteenth century. A comparison between the illustrations which deal with the Italian, French, Spanish, German, Dutch and English Renaissance will enable the student to recognise the local influences that were at work in the ornamental expression of this period. The eighteenth century has also been most carefully studied. This period is illustrative of a far greater international influence, and the author no doubt had a very difficult task in selecting the correct examples. English work of this period is fully representative, and from cover to cover the volume contains a rare fund of information, useful to all who study and appreciate decorative art.

In the "History of Ornament: Renaissance and Modern," by A. D. F. Hamlin, A.M.L.H.D., etc., Professor of the History of Architecture in Columbia University (464 illustrations and 23 plates), the author truly states in his Introduction that "the history of Renaissance and modern ornament is a record of the origin, development, culmination, decline and succession of the styles and movements which have dominated decorative design since the close of the Middle Ages. Such a record, if all embracing and exhaustive, would require many volumes, and might indeed fill a considerable library." So as to enable those interested in this subject to form an opinion of this book we again quote from the Introduction: "In the first place it has seemed wise to exclude the whole field of Oriental ornament. Secondly, as this is a history of ornament rather than of decorative art in its broadest sense, the field of decorative sculpture and painting—that is, of such painting and sculpture as exist for their own sakes, as pictorial and sculptural representations *per se*—has also been excluded. The object of this book aims at meeting the needs of those students and workers in the decorative arts who wish to understand something of the origin, history and characteristics of the various styles of ornament without being compelled to search through innumerable volumes in various languages." The volume can be truthfully classified as a history of the ornamental expression of the people of the time. The illustrations are very clear and well chosen. The author sets himself the task in this volume to cover the entire history of ornament from about 1420 to 1789 or 1800. Between these dates he uses the word Renaissance as indicating the style of these times. He applies the term modern to all ornamental expression of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including that of the Empire period and style of France.



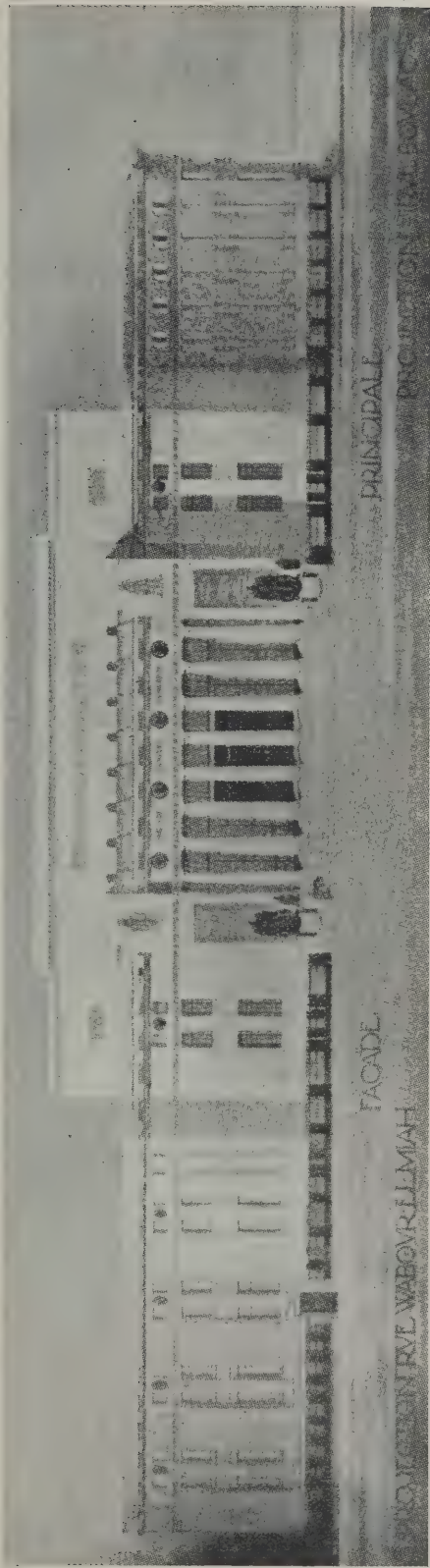
PERSPECTIVE VIEW.



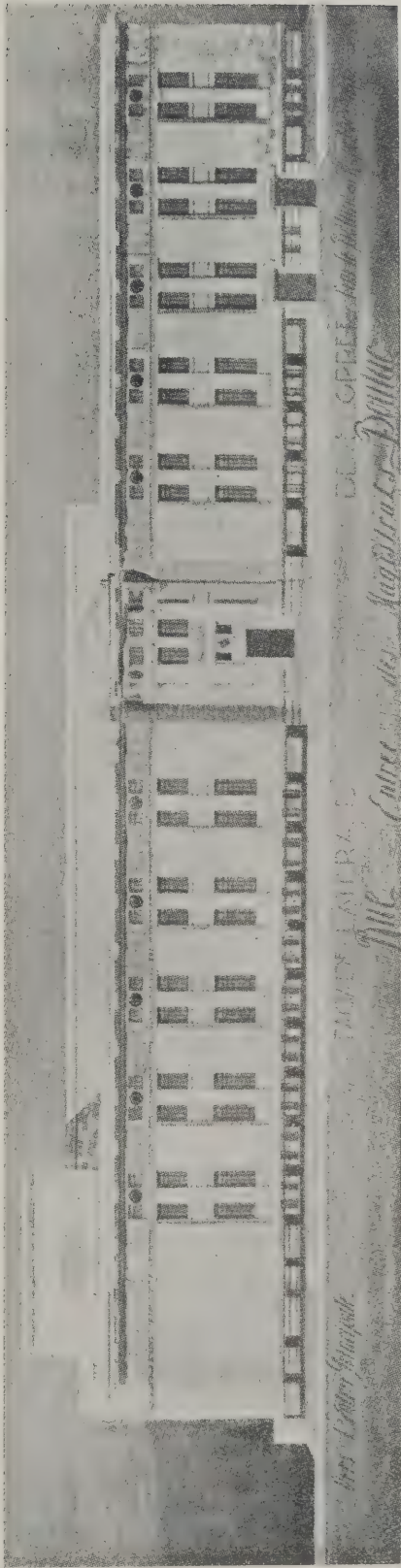
PLAN DU REZ-DE-CHAVASSE.

CAIRO COMPETITION FOR PALAIS DE JUSTICE. DESIGN PLACED FIRST. MM. L. AZEMA M, EDREI ET J. HARDY, Architects.
From "La Construction Moderne," March 9, 1924.

Cairo Competition for Palais de Justice.



PROJECTION RUE WABOUR-ELMCAH.



FACADE LATÉRALE.
DESIGN PLACE FIRST. MM. L. AZEMA, M. EDREI ET J. HARDY, Architects.
From "La Construction Moderne," March 9, 1924.

The Guildhall, London.

Lecture given before the Sheffield Society of Architects and Surveyors at the Sheffield University on February 21, 1924, by Mr. Sydney Perks.

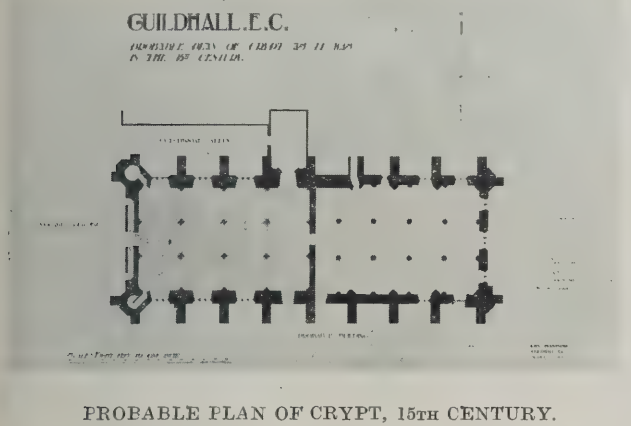


VAN DEN WYNGARDE'S VIEW OF 1543.

It would be no idle boast to claim that the Guildhall is a unique building, for, although it was formerly the scene of more historical events of the greatest importance than it is to-day, it is still the centre of great civic movements, and its usefulness has increased in many ways. It has a wonderful record—meetings of citizens to decide even the fate of kings, trials of State, treason and murder, and reception of sovereigns and statesmen of note from all parts of the world. It might be said that Westminster Hall has a history to rival it. The work and importance of the Guildhall increase from day to day. The old order gives place to the new. But it is not the historical or political record of the Guildhall that we are interested in—it is the story of the building. A book by J. E. Price was published in 1886, entitled "A Descriptive Account of the Guildhall of the City of London." With a large part of the work I am not concerned, but I think Price is incorrect in certain statements he makes about the building, and I do not agree with him that the entire main hall was not built at one time. I believe the Guildhall was built at one date, and that no portions of former buildings were incorporated with the structure. My belief is based upon conclusions I draw from the writings of Stow and others, from the examination of old maps, plans and views, and from the recent exposure of parts of the old building in connection with which I have had the honour to be associated. Little is known of any Guildhall erected before the present building. There was a previous structure apparently with a frontage to Aldermanbury, and I have heard it suggested that the west portion of the existing crypt was part of that Guildhall. It is well to note that the present Guildhall was considered a remarkably big building at the time it was erected. It is about 160 ft. long; the west front is about 150 ft. from Aldermanbury; the west portion of the crypt is about 79 ft. long. Consequently if the old Guildhall buildings extended from Aldermanbury to half-way along the present building, the length was no less than 229 ft., or 69 ft. longer than the existing building. This is hardly in keeping with the record in Fabyan's "Chroni-

cles," which states, "In this yere (1411) also was ye Guyldhalle of Lodon begon to be new edyfied, and of an olde and lytell cotage made into a fayre and goodly house as it now apperyth." Again there is an interesting reference to the new building in the "Calendar of Letter Books," edited by Dr. Sharpe, of the Guildhall. On page 3 of Book I it states that the new work of the Guildhall had ceased; it was commenced, as we know, in 1411, and the entry was dated 1413. It speaks of the scandal and disgrace of the City not to be able to continue the work, and to find a remedy. The important part is this:—"The Mayor . . . and the Aldermen . . . in their Common Council assembled in the Upper Chamber of this Guildhall"—this must refer to the previous Guildhall. How could they assemble in the present building in 1413, when we know it was not completed till about 1422, the year when the executors of the celebrated Dick Whittington contributed towards "the paving of this great Hall twenty pounds, and the next year fifteen pounds more to the said pavement with hard stone of Purbeck; they also glazed some windows thereof and of the Mayor's Court, on every which window the arms of Richard Wittington are placed." Surely the extract of 1413 seems to imply that the Common Council decided, as sensible men, to keep the old building up while the new one was being erected; and if they did that how could the west end of the crypt have been part of the previous Guildhall, that "olde and lytell cotage" we have already heard of? Again, Stow, who wrote in 1598, states: "This olde Bery Court or hall continued, and the Courts of the Maior and Aldermen were continually holden there, until the new Bery Court or Guildhall that now is, was builded and finished," and "I my selfe have seene the ruines of the old Court hall in Aldermanbury Streete, which of late hath bene employed as a Carpenters yard, etc." Again he writes: "Thomas Knoles Gower, Maior, 1400, with his brethren the Aldermen, began to new build the Guild Hall in London, and in steed of an olde little Cottage in Aldermanberiestreet, made a faire and goodly house, more neare unto Saint Laurence church in the Jurie"

(Kingsford's Stow, Vol. 1, page 108). Also on page 292, Vol. 1, of the same edition we read: "How Aldermanbury streete tooke that name, many fables have been bruted, all which I overpasse as not worthy the counting; but to be short, I say, this street tooke the name of Aldermans burie (which is to say a Court) there kept in their bery, or Court hall now called the Guildhall, which hall of old time stode on the east side of the same street not far from the west ende of Guildhall now used." Maitland, in his book of "The History of London," writes: "The Mayor and Court of Aldermen considering the many inconveniences arising from, and great Obstructions given to, the public business of the City, which daily increased with Inhabitants, occasioned by the Want of Room in that despicable Cottage the Guildhall in Aldermanbury, set about erecting the present Guildhall; which is a spacious Structure, well accommodated for the transacting of all



publick Affairs belonging to the City." This extract is certainly in keeping with the idea that the old Guildhall had a frontage in Aldermanbury, and that the present building was erected independent of the old structure.

I have prepared plans of the crypt and Guildhall above, showing them, as far as I can judge, as they were when first built in the early part of the fifteenth century. With regard to the crypt, the eastern half, by far the most elaborate portion, is very little different to-day from what it was nearly 500 years ago. The crypt has been restored; until then, the walls and vaulting were covered with dirt and grease, the shafts supporting the vaulting were quite black, and it was only after the removal of the grease and dirt that the colour of the blue Purbeck stone shafts could be seen. This eastern crypt was more expensively constructed than the western portion; it was probably used for certain meetings, and its importance was emphasised by the fine entrance, which is quite as elaborate as the fifteenth century porch. Until about two years ago it was boarded up and completely obscured, the upper half by a lavatory, while the lower portion of the doorway formed the side of a dark lumber hole, and accessible through a trap-door. Now a new staircase gives easy access to the crypt, and we can see the fine mouldings of the piers, the niches that no doubt held statues, and many other interesting details. Massive iron hooks still remain on which the heavy doors were hung. The bar that held them in position swung back heavily when unhooked, for a circular line was worn on the stone jamb, and can be seen to-day. This doorway was about 7 ft. 10½ in. below the level of the Guildhall yard, and was approached by a flight of steps, no doubt of stone. Excavations have been made, but no traces of these steps could be found; it was hoped there might be some lines showing where the stones were built against the outer wall of the porch, but none appear. The excavations were, however, only made along a small portion of the wall, and there may be traces along the remaining part. We are more fortunate with the indications of the access from the crypt door level to the floor of the crypt, for the old stone lines may still be seen, and the new staircase was kept well clear of them.

The question of the date of the eastern and western crypt is of the greatest interest; and, as Price states that the eastern crypt was the crypt of the old chapel, it may be useful to criticise the evidence he lays before us. He states (see page 110 of his "History of the Guildhall") that a chapel was built about 1280, and used as a chapel until 1429; it was then discovered it "had become too small for the requirements of the citizens flocking to hear divine worship," and that Henry VI, accordingly, "granted letters patent to pull down the old chapel, but as the crypt beneath the old chapel was substantial, it remained, and is the present eastern crypt." But surely he forgets the Guildhall was commenced in 1411, paved in 1422, and glazed in 1423, and the porch erected, "last of all," in 1425. How could the chapel above the crypt have existed where the Guildhall is now until 1429 when the entire Guildhall, on the same site, was finished about 1425? When Price suggests that this portion of the crypt belonged to an early chapel, we cannot help thinking it seems unlikely that a little cottage, like the previous Guildhall, should have so large a chapel; and, further, does it not seem strange that if this portion was incorporated in the Guildhall in 1411, having an area of 5,291 sq. ft., that the new chapel, erected in 1429, should only have an area of 4,234 ft., or 1,057 ft. less? Let us also face the fact that the old chapel "had become too small for the requirements of the citizens to hear divine worship." There is a theory that this eastern crypt was used as a chapel, and a little recess at the eastern end may have given rise to that idea. A few years ago brickwork that had been built across the doorway opposite the main entrance was removed, and the steps and other details uncovered. These steps, which were also covered up, probably led to some official portion of the building. It is often suggested that the cross wall, which divides the crypt into two parts, was not built at the same time as the vaulting was constructed in one of the two halves. This has been used as an argument by those who have advocated the theory that a part of the crypt formerly belonged to a previous building. The western half of the crypt is supposed to have collapsed during the Great Fire, and Wren is credited with the restoration. This theory is no doubt correct. The architect, whoever he was, proceeded to rebuild the vaulting necessary to support the floor of the hall. He did it in the quickest way possible; he did not replace the old stone vaulting, but simply built a brick wall at each end of the space to be covered, and just inside the old stone walls, one being the cross wall and the other the west external wall; and in doing so he built up all the old stone responds, etc., and they have been hidden from 1666 until quite recently. Wren then built a series of brick arches, similar to a range of railway arches. He filled up the haunches and replaced the floor. The workmen filled in with any stone or brick debris handy, and hundreds of beautiful Gothic fragments exist to-day in these brick walls. While removing the brickwork to uncover the Gothic work a very large number of the fragments have been carefully removed and labelled, and are deposited in the museum. Of course, it was a great pity the Gothic work was bricked up, but in a certain sense it is to our advantage to-day, now that these links with the past have been brought to light; for the bricking up process has preserved the stone and also the ironwork of the windows. The work is now exposed after a lapse of 240 years, and we see the sharp edges of the stonework, etc., which we could not have done had the work been handy for mutilation and exposed to the atmosphere. Consequently, I think in a certain sense we may be grateful to the City authorities of centuries ago for their vandalism.

When clearing out some of the debris filled in just below the paving of the hall, I found a few pieces of stone, smooth and well worn on one side, tooled and rough the other side. They are portions of paving stones, and are Purbeck, and no doubt formed part of the paving of the hall, paid for in 1422 by the executors of the celebrated Dick Whittington, and referred to above. They are exhibited in the crypt. To return to the cross wall of the crypt. An examination of the responds at the angles of the western half shows each cap is formed of one stone, and beyond



VISSCHER S VIEW. A.D. 1616.

wanted. The result is that we now know exactly where the piers existed and the number of them; we can tell from the responds that the vaulting ribs spring direct from the shafts without any caps, as at Fountains Abbey, and every detail is at hand to enable the Corporation to restore the entire west end of the crypt, so that we could see it as in the fifteenth century. I also cut away the brickwork at the west end, and was delighted to find the two responds I wanted in an excellent state of preservation. Another very interesting discovery was a three-light window in the west wall of the building; this was entirely bricked up. It was apparently the only three-light window in the west end of the crypt. A portion of the sill remains. This is yet another link in the chain of belief that the building was an independent structure. Had the Guildhall been an extension of a previous building, we might have looked for a floor here, but, according to this discovery, apparently there was no communication from the west end of the crypt. The doorways show communication north, south and east. The last doorway shows a rather peculiar state of things; apparently the opening was first intended to be of the width shown, and then it was decided to make it narrower, and build the dividing wall between the crypts across part of the jamb; this was done, and on taking away this portion of the wall the old structure, covered up since it was built in 1411, shows as sharp an arris as if it had been worked to-day—in other words, we see the jamb of the door which has been hidden for 500 years.

There is a very interesting staircase from the crypt to the side of the porch, which is almost entire. The entrance at the crypt level still has stout hooks, and the ceiling is simply vaulted by stones leaning against one another, a straight joint running from end to end. As stated above, the whole of the western half of the crypt was constructed in a much less expensive manner than the eastern half. The windows have simpler heads, and were not glazed—glass was a luxury in those days; the piers of the vaulting were in ordinary stone, and not Purbeck, as in the eastern half, and there were no caps. It seems to me a possible reason for the difference is that the eastern half was constructed for ceremonial purposes, and the western half for muniment purposes or domestic work. This may or may not be so, and I advance the theory as a practical solution of a difficulty. We get the magnificent entrance to the eastern half of the crypt, and we get the narrow little staircase at the side of the porch to the western half. This at once suggests what is now known as a trade entrance, and the two doors close together, on the north side, indicate

that access was sought to one portion of the crypt by persons who did not wish to pass through the other portion. In 1501 kitchens were erected at the north side of the building, opening off the western portion. Later on, the western end of the crypt was used for stables, for we read in 1683 that two aldermen were requested to report upon the "mischiefs arising from the keeping of a stable and a coach-house under the Guildhall." The vaulting in the western half of the crypt is not planned conveniently for the main shafts above; in other words, the responds for the vaulting are not under the piers in the hall, but along each side wall there are other responds which are immediately under the piers of the great hall. It has been suggested that this part of the crypt, being a portion of an earlier building, was retained when the great hall was erected; consequently it was necessary to add responds to support the piers above, cutting through the vaulting of an earlier date. This theory is, I think, incorrect. I had the necessary brickwork cut away and the stonework cleaned before a photograph was taken, and it is quite clear that the wall rib of the vaulting and a portion of the additional pier adjoining have been cut out of one stone; in other words, the vaulting and all responds were built at the same time. I have tested this in more than one place. I had been puzzled for a very long while about the two stone staircases found in the thickness of the wall at the east end of the crypt. They start from the level of the east doorway, which was about 5 feet above the floor of the crypt, and turn outwards at a height of about 15 feet above the floor of the crypt. A possible solution seems to be this: I found at the British Museum, in the Grace collection, the maps of Overton and Pricke; these have been referred to above, and clearly show a building, apparently about 50 feet by 50 feet, at the east end of the Guildhall. These stairs built, as was often the case, in the thickness of the wall, clearly show a connection between a building joining the east end of the Guildhall and the crypt. If a building did exist on that site in the fifteenth century, built apparently at the same time as the Guildhall, it seems likely that some connection should have existed between the main hall and that building. The plan of the hall shows a circular staircase at the north-east corner. Until some time ago this was blocked at the foot of a boiler, and had not been used for very many years, the dust and debris being many inches thick on the treads. But on going up I found a doorway, bricked up as usual, opening outwards into space; this probably communicated with some building. There is a similar doorway in the south-east turret leading

into a complete small room. There was no staircase in this angle, consequently the room could only have been approached from a building at the east end of the Guildhall. In the circular staircase, about the level of the great hall, there is also a doorway; this was bricked up, and on removing the brickwork I came upon a passage about 23 feet long, 3 feet wide, and 8 feet 5 inches high which was also blocked with stone work, but the filling in was removed with great care, and it was found the passage led into the great hall, passing through a buttress on the way. By a little expense, this ancient way can be restored, and communication opened up between the hall and crypt, which will be very useful for entertainments, etc.

The following extract from Maitland's History, Vol. II, may be of interest:—"More to the South is Guildhall-Court, which is well built and inhabited by the Chamberlain, Town-Clerk, and some other officers chiefly depending on the City Business transacted in Guildhall. This Court has a Thoroughfare into Guildhall-yard, that opens between the Hall and the Chapel; and it leads into the great Hall by a back stairs." There is further proof of a building or buildings at that end of the hall, for there is evidence in the records that a house was approached by the lower gate. We read that on the twentieth day of February in the fifth year of the reign of King Henry VI, "John Penchricke, the Mayor's esquire, should have and hold the house or mansion situate above the lower gate of the Guildhall of the said City, and which John Marchaunt late held and inhabited, to have to him so long as he shall have behaved himself in his office, etc., without paying for it any rent."

This lower gate is possibly the smaller entrance door on the south front previous to Dance's work, or, more probably, it was the entrance already referred to, from Basinghall Street, which Stow calls "the backe Gate of Guildhall." To quote Stow again, we read: "The foundation of the Mayor's court was laid in the thirde year of the reign of Henry the sixt, and of the Porche on the South side of the Mayor's courte, in the fourth of the said King. Then was builded the Mayor's chamber, and the Council Chamber, with other rooms above the staires." We also read, "for a further monument of these late times, men may behold the glass windows of the Mayor's Court in the Guildhall above the staires." It seems likely that the stairs in the thickness of the walls and in the north-east corner are the stairs, or some of them, that Stow refers to.

It will be seen that two porches were referred to by Stow, one being the main entrance and the other the porch to the Mayor's Court, etc., the latter being built slightly earlier than the main entrance. We know also that the windows of the Mayor's Court were glazed in the same year as those of the great hall; consequently it is clear that when the Guildhall was being erected other important buildings were being constructed at the same time. A large scheme was evidently in hand, and it is also obvious that the great work of the Corporation could not have been carried on in the large hall and crypt; for, in addition to the Mayor's Court, there were several other Courts.

Richard Blome, who wrote shortly after the Great Fire, states "the roofs, floors, and what else was therein were consumed. These rooms, courts, and offices are appropriated to the same place, wherein they were kept formerly, but much more regular and loftier and more substantially built."

There is quite an interesting little history in connection with the east end of the ground floor of the building. The window as it is to-day has three main divisions, heavy transom, etc. There is also an old view showing the window as now and with Wren's flat ceiling and extra tier of windows. But another view shows the interior at an earlier date with the lower part of the west window filled in with stone work and a monument against it. There are two other old prints in the Guildhall Library, and it will be seen the window is quite different in these illustrations; there are seven lights and no transom. Consequently, I naturally thought that the window had been renewed at some time, but I could find no reference to the cost. However, at the British Museum I traced two views of a State lottery held at the Guildhall.

Apparently the illustrations are about the same date as the early prints in the Guildhall library, and the illustrations are referred to in "Political and Personal Satires," Vol. III, part 1, No. 2435. These lottery views show the window as it exists to-day. I hacked a little of the cement work away outside the window and found the old stone sills, mullions and transoms underneath. The result proves that, although the old window has been practically renewed, it follows the lines of the original. I have also seen at least one other incorrect view of the window, apparently made during the eighteenth century. These inaccurate old illustrations often give one a lot of trouble, for it is not advisable to rely upon their evidence alone. The stonework was very much decayed inside and was elaborately pieced about the year 1870.

Just under the great window there is a very fine stone canopy; this delicate piece of work can only be properly seen from a ladder, as the projection of the canopy of the wood screen below hides the view of it except from a distance. About the same level as the top of the wood panelling there is a horizontal line at the springing of the stone canopy. It is probable that tapestry was hung below. Stow relates that "Nicholas Alwyn, mercer, Mayor 1499, deceased 1505, gave by his Testament for a hanging of Tapestry to serve for principall dayes in the Guildhall 72 li, 6s. 8d." There are also other references; one related to the "hangyng and garnysshyng of the over and higher parts of the Guildhall." Consequently, there seems little doubt that the hustings were formerly hung with arras. The stone canopy at the back of some wood panelling which Wren erected, and his screen across the hall, are shown in old illustrations. Wren had the good sense to design his panelling so as not to obscure the stone work, which, unfortunately, is so hidden to-day.

(To be concluded.)

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

APRIL 4, 1874.

Few things more strongly mark the century in which we live than the increase of what is called by those who love fine language periodicity. The plain way of saying it is our having become very subject to fits of doing first one thing, and then another. Put it whichever way we like, there can be no doubt that even those subjects which may, perhaps, be recognised as having increasingly gained the public ear, and grown in public favour, have done so impulsively, and not always by steady growth; while in many cases a topic has been taken up for a month or a year or a longer period, pursued till partially exhausted, and has then been allowed quietly to drop. The buildings which have occupied public attention are no exception to this rule. There was once a workhouse-building period; that passed. After it rose a great church-building time; but now, though churches are built as they are required, there is by no means the same urgent demand for them, or the same rapid creation of new districts, and erection of new or renovated churches as prevailed some years ago. Hotels were for several years the most prominent feature in the architecture of the day. The demand created by railway extension had to be supplied, and fine buildings, often larger than wanted, sometimes, also, so imposing looking as to scare away the moderate traveller, but not unfrequently admirable both in arrangement and design, rose on all hands. Hotels, however, seem to have had their day, so have public halls; so also had at an earlier stage mechanic's institutes. Town halls have been rather run upon of late years, and we may fairly believe that the period of town hall building has not yet closed, though probably it is drawing towards a close. The present day is, no doubt, emphatically the school-building age, and perhaps no architectural phase has ever been so universal as this one. No town, however large, can possibly accommodate more than one town hall and two or three large hotels, but even a moderate sized town requires many school houses, while in a large city their name is legion. At present in London the School Board is understood to have about fifty schools in hand, or recently completed, from the designs of Mr. Robson, and thirty from the designs of various London architects. But even in London the demand will overtake the supply, and a season will arrive when the wanderer in the metropolis will no longer have to look astonished as every half-mile or so brings him face to face with a big Queen Anne building, marked by an octagon with a pointed roof in the centre of the side. The question will naturally present itself to our readers, what next? This, unfortunately, we cannot pretend to answer.

A February Holiday in Sicily.

W. F. Sedgwick.



THE GREEK THEATRE, TAORMINA.

As this brief account concerns Sicily principally, and Taormina in particular, I will not trouble to describe the journey through France to the Italian border town of Modane on to Rome and Naples, although this journey is full of interest, passing Spezzia and its picturesque harbour, the island of Elba, Pisa, with a good view of its wonderful Leaning Tower, and numerous picturesque towns on the north-western coast of Italy.



THE MESSINA GATE, TAORMINA.

We are now bound for Palermo, the capital of Sicily, reached in the morning after a very pleasant passage. The first view from the sea is beautiful in the extreme; the gaily-coloured houses on the sea-front and the vast ranges of irregular-shaped mountains form a background, with Monte Pelligreno on the west and Monte Catalfano on the east composing a splendid panorama.

On landing we found a gay and animated scene, the picturesque streets and dresses of the populace, the luxurious growth of foliage, palms, mimosa, etc., together with quantities of gaily decorated Sicilian carts, hawkers, and officials in their military costumes forming a combination well worth travelling so far to view.

The three leading streets, the Corso Vittorio Emanuele, the Via Macqueda, and the Via della Libertà are all handsome thoroughfares, the latter being the favourite promenade and the driving-course for the inhabitants. Their one great object in life appears to be sitting at the back of a steed, large or small, and careering up and down the street as rapidly as possible, particularly on Sunday afternoons.

Personally, I consider Palermo has lost its opportunity of becoming an Italian Monte Carlo or Nice. The whole of what might have been a beautiful sea-promenade has been mostly taken up by warehouses, wharves, docks, etc. In fact, this remark applies to many Italian towns delightfully situated on the shores of the beautiful Mediterranean Sea. The principal places of interest are the Royal Palace, which dates back to the times of the Saracens, and the Cathedral, which was commenced in the twelfth century. The tombs of the Kings of Sicily, the remains of which are reposing in magnificent porphyry sarcophagi in this imposing edifice, are a striking feature.

A favourite excursion from Palermo is to the old town of Monreale, situated on a hill about five miles from Palermo. The entire interest of this place consists in visiting its remarkable Cathedral, founded in 1174 by William II., and both the exterior and interior are very wonderful.

The mosaic work is magnificent and difficult to surpass. In cloisters the designs of the columns and capitals are most varied and delicate. A more ambitious excursion is to the Temple of Segesta, which, if to be accomplished in a day, means a drive of many miles in a car. On leaving the city, the road ascends in a zig-zag course for some miles, passing bare and rugged mountains, valleys and gorges, some of which were the haunts of brigands not so very many years ago. Old world and quaint-looking towns and villages and hot sulphur springs also come into view.

A rest is really needed on reaching Naples, but when there one naturally feels bound to visit the wonderful ruins of Pompeii. The roads, walls, and buildings are extremely well-preserved, and really good pictures can be secured by the amateur photographer.



THE TOMBS OF THE SARACENS, TAORMINA.

When the Temple is reached it will be found that the rather arduous journey is amply repaid. This well-preserved edifice proves a wonderful spectacle. Standing 990 feet above sea-level, it is considered one of the finest old Temples in the world, dating back 23 centuries! The ruins of the Temple of Salunite, which are about nine miles distant, should not be missed, many considering them more interesting to the archæologists than Segesta. Taormina, on the north-east coast of Sicily, is reached by train from Palermo early in the morning, travelling along the north coast of the island, passing Cefalu, noted for its magnificent Cathedral. This was erected in 1131 by King Roger to commemorate his miraculous escape from shipwreck.

The town of Taormina was founded in 396 B.C., and was built by the Greeks. Their presence in this spot is evidenced by the wonderful ruins of their theatre, which is famous not only for its state of preservation, but as including the most perfect remains of a Greek stage that can be found in Europe. The ruins stand on a high hill which commands a fine view of the town, Mount Etna, the shores of the Mediterranean, and the straits of Messina.

Taormina itself is small but, unlike other small towns in

Monte Castello and the neighbouring village of Mola is generally taken with the aid of donkeys and their attendants.

Delightful walks along the sea-coast and the adjoining valleys are numerous and varied in aspect. In the course of these, verdant orange and lemon groves and plantations crowded with fruit are passed. Then there is every convenience for sea trips in quaintly shaped, highly-coloured rowing boats, that to the blue Grotto with its wonderful colouring and the red corals being well worth taking.

Another feature of the town is the gaudily-painted Sicilian carts and plumaged horses, and the general use of bullocks for ploughing and carrying heavy loads and other



AMPHITHEATRE, POZZUOLI.

agricultural purposes. On the other hand, very few cows are in evidence, but everywhere there is a plethora of goats and fowls, which swarm the streets, and wander in and out of the houses, where they appear to be quite at home.

During the fine weather the poorer classes cook all their



THE BROAD HIGHWAY! TAORMINA.



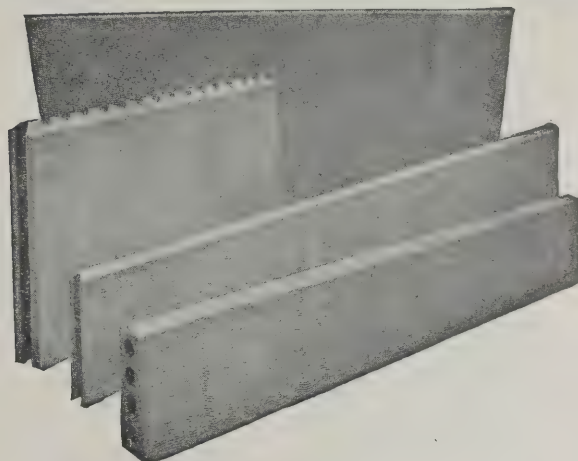
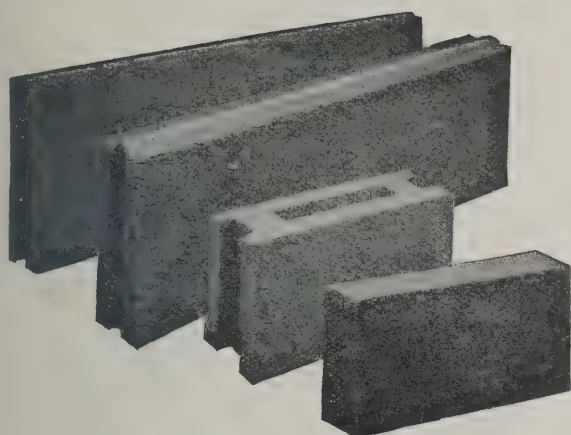
THE ROAD UP FROM GIARDINI, TAORMINA.

the district, is clean. A feature is the water carriers with their small carts holding one large barrel, the contents being sold to the inhabitants at the rate of 4 lire. As may be imagined, the water supply is somewhat scanty, although there are several picturesque fountains in the squares and bye-roads, and the quality is excellent. The ascent to the

meals in the open in braziers which are piled with charcoal and fanned with strange-looking cane implements. In bad weather this is done indoors and the smoke and fumes escape through holes in the walls, as there are no chimneys in these poorer quarters.

A house is to be built in Hayes Lane, Hayes; two houses on the Ludgwood estate will be started shortly; two bungalows, the plans for which have been approved by the local authorities, are to be built in Chelsfield Lane, Orpington.

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VIEW OF POMPEII.

The governors of the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley, propose to raise from ten to twelve thousand pounds for the erection of wards for women and children.

The Bedford Town Council have passed the plans for a bungalow in Elstow Road, five houses in Park Road North, another house in Kimbolton Road. Subsidies have been granted to twenty houses and eleven cottages.

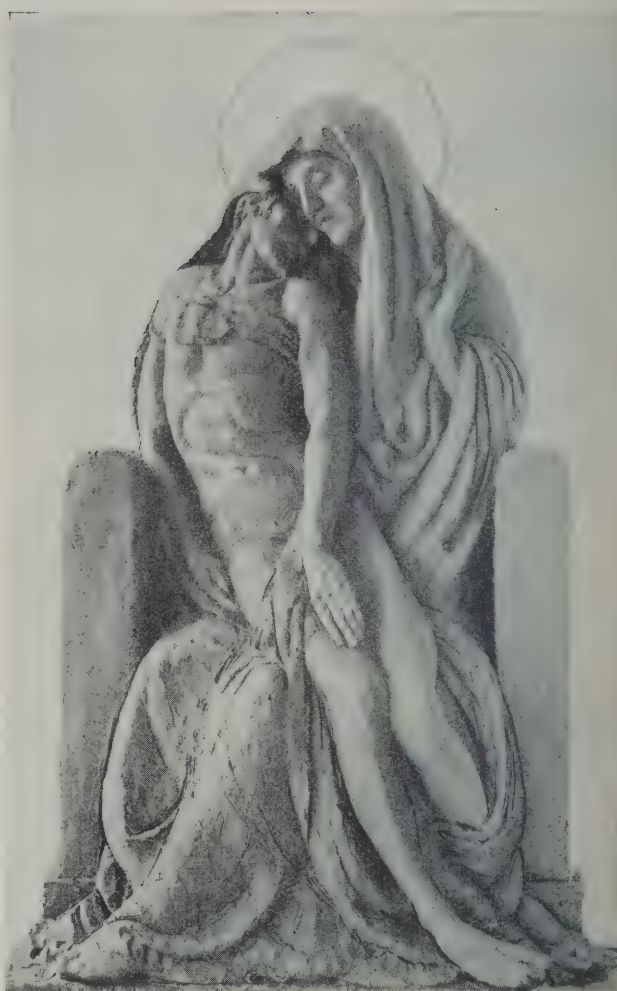


VIEW OF POMPEII.

University News.

Two Bartlett exhibitions for students intending to join the School of Architecture at University College are offered for award this year. They are of the annual value of £40 a year and tenable for five or three years according to the course.

Applications must be made to the Secretary of University College, London, not later than May 30.



ROUGH SKETCH. By MARAINI, Sculptor.

A New Monument for Santa Croce in Florence.

An important sculptural monument is the subject of a competition at Florence just now. It is to be symbolic of the Italian Mother and is to be placed in the church of Santa Croce. A considerable number of artists competed in the first round and the judges selected six of the models submitted. These are by the Florence group of sculptors: Antonio Maraini, Romano Romanelli, Libero Andreotti, three young artists who have successfully established a neo-gothic revival in Italy, and Archimede Campini, Valmone Gemignani and Attilio Selva, three others who are also quite young. The memorial takes the form of a *Pietà*, and one of the conditions was that the body of the Christ should be upon the knees of the Mother, which was rather formidable. In the result, however, some fine designs have been achieved, not the least interesting thing about them being the architectural settings which had to attune with the church. Certainly in four of the models there is fresh inspiration in this direction, and in that of Romanelli tradition has been discarded and an original symbolic design substituted. The roughly modelled clay sketch by Maraini of his group is illustrated herewith. The selected six sketches have now to be used in preparing the large models which will be judged next May and one of them selected.

Three bungalows are to be erected in Shilton Road, Bulkington; the necessary plans have been passed by the local authority.

The Belper Urban District Council passed the plans for a bungalow in Spencer Road.

Messrs. Bradshaw, Gass and Hope, architects, have prepared plans for the extension of Wilkinson's Sanatorium, Belmont Road, Bolton.

The Darlington Corporation passed the plans for a Spiritualist Hall in Hopetown Lane.



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Housing.

The building activities at Southend-on-Sea are of a very extensive character. The Town Council have a scheme before them for the erection of a winter garden. Plans have been prepared by D. N. Martin-Kaye, architect, the architectural master at the School of Art. The Town Council passed the following housing plans: One in the Duke of Manchester Drive, another in North Avenue, two in Maple Avenue, six in Tankerville Drive, three in Belle Vue Road, two in Ely Road, two in Fairfax Drive, five in Ilfracombe Road, two in Salisbury Road, two in Chalkwell Avenue, six in Beedell Avenue, four in Victoria Drive, four in Lonsdale Road, two bungalows in Undercliff Gardens, another in Carlton Avenue, two further bungalows in Tunbridge Road, four in Crescent Road, and fourteen flats in Westcliff Park Drive.

At Hove the Corporation passed the plans for three pairs of semi-detached houses in Erroll, Norman and Hallyburton Roads.

At Northwood the Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Council passed the plans for a house, Howletts Lane, Ruislip; a house in Sandy Lodge Way, Northwood; a house in Hilliard Road, Northwood; a house in Rickmansworth Road, Northwood; a pair of houses on the Ruislip Manor estate; another pair of houses in Manor Road, Ruislip; a house at Church Avenue junction with Manor Road, Ruislip; two houses in Manor Road, Ruislip; a pair of semi-detached houses, Acacia Avenue, Eastcote; a house, Lime Grove, Eastcote; a bungalow, Poplar Avenue, Eastcote.

The Corporation Highways and Buildings Committee, Wakefield, has passed the following plans: Two houses in Oakworth Road; two houses, View Road; a house, Glenlyon Drive; four houses in Long Lee Lane, and a bungalow, Devonshire Street. The Warrington Corporation is recommended to pass plans as follows: Four houses, Gorsey Lane; four houses, Reynolds Street. The Upper District of Renfrewshire Buildings Committee has passed plans as follows: Villa at Langtree Avenue; villa at King's Road, Auchenlodgment, Johnstone; cottage at Cochrane Mill, Milliken Park; bungalow at Otterburn Drive, Giffnock; another bungalow at Grampian Road, Hillpark; four houses at Kilmarnock Road, Giffnock; a double bungalow at Tremaine Avenue, Giffnock South.

The Town Council of Pontefract has passed plans as follows: Two houses, Swanhill Lane; lay-out of building estate, for the exors. of the late Mr. B. Hartley; 13 houses, Knottingley Road; a bungalow in Halfpenny Lane, and another bungalow, Halfpenny Lane, for Mr. E. H. Clarke. The Yorkshire Electric Power Co. has acquired a site on the Airedale housing estate on which it is proposed to erect an electricity sub-station.

The Aberdeen Corporation Plans Committee have passed the plans for six bungalows in Norfolk Road.

The Aberystwyth Town Council have passed the plans for twelve houses in Smithfield Road.

The Andover Town Council have passed the plans for forty houses.

The Colwyn Bay Urban District Council have passed the plans for a house on Llandudno Road, two in Station Road, Old Colwyn, four in Neirion Gardens, a house in Allanson Road, two off Llanellian Road, and a bungalow in Penybryn Road, and another at Talybont Nanlyglyn.

The East Ham Town Council passed the plans for nine houses in Masterman Road, eight houses in Cotswold Gardens, twelve houses in Bedford Wall End and Barking Roads, twenty houses in Flanders Road.

Mr. F. W. Walker proposes to develop the Friern Watch Estate, Friern Barnet. The local urban council have passed the plans of 145 houses submitted to them.

Twelve houses are to be erected in Orchard Place, Glasshoughton.

Schools.

It is proposed to extend the Latymer School at Edmonton. A science room is to be added to Bounds Green Road County School, Wood Green. Additional science and physics laboratories are to be built at Hornsey Stationers' School. New schools are to be erected at Hendon, Northwood and Teddington, and the Southall, Finchley, Ashford and Isleworth school premises are to be enlarged. The Board of Education has received from the Cardiff Education Committee plans for the new Council school at Mynachdy. A new Catholic secondary school is to be shortly started at Osgathorpe, Sheffield. The Carmarthenshire Education Committee propose shortly to erect a new school building at Pembrey. The governors of the Spalding Grammar School have adopted a scheme for the extension of the school premises. New school buildings are to be erected on the Moulscombe Estate, Brighton.

Trade Notes.

We have received from Messrs. Spedol Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Brentford, Middlesex, a colour index of "Stempeau" washable art shades. "Stempeau" is a sanitary and antiseptic distemper. The colour range sent to us is certainly very extensive. Twelve variations of blue and blue purple. In the greens, fourteen shades are displayed in the index. Seven yellows are shown, apart from the light brown tones that are included in the twelve brown shades. The reds are specially fine. Before using "Stempeau" it is advisable to clean off all old distemper or other surfaces in the usual way and stop all cracks and holes with the distemper in paste form. To thin "Stempeau" add only one pint of water to seven pounds of paste and mix to a consistency of ordinary ready-mixed paint.

Messrs. Musgraves (Liverpool), Ltd., sanitary ware manufacturers, have opened London showrooms at 49a Rathbone Place, W.1, where specimens of their "Invicta" fireclay baths, lavatories, etc., may be inspected.

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Architecture or Stylism ?

Mr. Arthur Bolton has done more to make the Soane Museum known to the public than any former holder of the Curatorship; and the volume on the works of Sir John Soane, which he edits, gives a scholarly and interesting account of Soane's life and works.* The production of such a book must have entailed a great amount of research and analysis, and those who wish to form an opinion on Soane's quality as an architect now have ample material for their task. We have given in past issues a number of articles by Mr. Bolton on Soane's work which are dealt with in the book before us with greater detail.

It is difficult to determine how much knowledge of any subject is necessary before we can arrive at sound opinions, for it would often seem that after a certain point has been reached study may tend to dull the edge of our critical faculties. The collector's instinct is strong in most men, and if we begin to study any subject we become after a time hypnotised by an unreal sense of its relative importance to other things.

A man may begin to collect thimbles, and after a time it will seem to him a subject of the first importance.

In the same manner the study of a dull or commonplace phase of architectural development may become of absorbing interest. Similarly the measuring and sketching of the works of Greek Thompson, the Inwoods, Smirke and Soane, would almost infallibly lead a student to form an erroneous idea of their proper place on the ladder of achievement. We can detect the influence of such studies in the work of many of the architectural schools as well as the actual work of some of our younger architects, and are inclined to question whether such studies are not a little dangerous to what we might define as the sanity of architectural judgment, and whether they should not be placed on the Index. It is even questionable whether some of the greatest works of the Italian Renaissance would have been created had architects at that epoch had the more accurate information as to the buildings of Greece and Rome which is available to-day.

We must, in the absence of an assured tradition, whether we admit it or not—borrow to a certain extent, and that being conceded there remains to be decided which source we can best borrow from and which should be avoided. We must also determine how far it is permissible to borrow, and when and where we should take an independent line.

If we borrow too much and from the wrong sources, we become stylists rather than architects; if we borrow too little we are in danger of becoming architectural freaks.

We have in the past fifty years oscillated between extremes. Burges seriously suggested that it would be reasonable to strip the dome of St. Paul's in order that its true construction should be revealed. We

to-day often see violent controversy aroused by proposals to demolish or alter buildings of third or fourth rate interest and merit.

As we recently mentioned there is a tendency to undervalue the work of a great architect who was not many years' ago more prominent than any other in the field of English art, while many of our younger men seem almost ripe for the discovery that in the early decades of the nineteenth century we really reached the climax of architectural development.

Part of this is due, we believe, to the eccentricity of some gifted architectural professors, part to the copious flow of works dealing with the work of second-rate men and part, no doubt, to the human instinct which W. S. Gilbert refers to in describing the pure young man who is satisfied with a vegetable love which "would certainly not suit me. Why what a very pure young man this pure young man must be." It is no doubt sometimes consoling to our self love to be able to detect excellence which is not apparent to others!

We believe all these influences are at work in our midst, and also that they are in the main prejudicial rather than advantageous to the production of good architectural design.

We doubt whether students who want to measure and sketch should select examples later than those which were produced in the traditional epochs of architectural development, for frequently if they choose works of later date they are but laboriously studying what are in fact copies themselves, and can not truly be described as independent design. We can see in St. Pancras Church the impression which the Erechtheion made on the Inwoods, but it would seem to us to be better if the student's taste lies in that direction to study Greek architecture itself. St. Paul's Cathedral will teach a student more than St. George's Hall, for the latter—great as it is—is the outcome of a study of Greek architecture by an English architect. In the first case we are dealing with what may be termed an original document, in the second with an adaptation. Soane's work seems to us to be a curious outcome of the results of careful classical study wedded with an attempt to discover a new gospel of decoration, an attempt in which, with all his ability, he failed.

We cannot help thinking that weighed in the scales of impartial judgment we should be forced to the conclusion that Soane's Bank of England fails to give us that delight which we have often experienced in contemplating buildings of far smaller pretensions or importance.

Fifty years ago its merits were doubtless undervalued; to-day we believe the tendency is to attribute to it merits which is not justified by reason.

The pendulum has undoubtedly swung too far in the appreciation of what are not in reality architectural feats as the experiments of clever architectural scholars, and, if so, it is a tendency of which those who are training the coming generation of architects, and the students themselves, should beware.

* *The Works of Sir John Soane, F.S.A., R.A.*, in 14 chapters, with 160 illustrations. Price 6s. 6d.; sold at the Soane Museum.

We are not dwellers on a wide plain on which we can wander in any direction with safety, but may be more correctly likened to travellers along a causeway with dangers on either side of us. We have drawn back from the pitfall of prettiness and picturesque irregularity, but it is possible, if we do not exercise caution, that we may fall on the other side into the slough of sameness and pedantic affectation. There are a few

among us who have inclinations towards the imitation of modern Dutch and German design, but on the whole we seem to be safe from this temptation.

It is perhaps a safeguard that the average client would hardly give us as much rope as our confreres abroad seem to get from those who employ them, and it is this, perhaps, more than our own rectitude which has saved us from the extravagancies of L'Art Nouveau.

Our Illustrations.

DRAKESTONE, STINCHCOMBE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. OSWALD P. MILNE & PAUL PHIPPS, Architects.

MOOR CLOSE TERRACES. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

HOUSE AT WARHAM ROAD, CROYDON, AND DETAILS OF SAME. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

Notes and Comments.

The Valuation of Houses.

We understand that in many districts the Council Surveyors who have to decide the amounts of subsidies to be granted for houses have been also asked to give an authoritative opinion on their probable value in the future. This seems to us to be putting an impossible question. Before the war building prices rose and fell in epochs but between fairly narrow limits, while there was a general tendency towards a rise over a period of years. Under such conditions the value of any building might be arrived at within a comparatively small margin of error. But now building prices, though somewhat more stable than the German mark or Russian rouble, have shown more than a certain "liveliness." In the main they depend on the price of labour, and more than that on the *quantum sufficit* given by labour for wages. Until we know what is going to determine the future action or attitude of labour it is utterly impossible to say whether building in ten or fifteen years' time will cost what it does to-day. It might under happier conditions be as much as 30 per cent. less which would destroy the most carefully considered valuation. It is, in a word, impossible for the most able surveyor to protect his employers from a possible loss except by the impossible course of advising the grant of a subsidy which would be declared to be wholly inadequate.

St. Paul's Bridge.

We fully endorse the objections raised to the carrying out of the St. Paul's Bridge scheme, and think the architectural bodies concerned are doing a good work in endeavouring to secure delay or rejection. It seems to us that the present time is not opportune for the inception of a new bridge scheme, and that present activities must from force of circumstance be limited to the necessary repairs of existing bridges, or in the case of Waterloo Bridge to possible rebuilding.

Waterloo Bridge.

"The Engineer," in referring to Waterloo Bridge, states that:—

On Tuesday the Improvements Committee of the London County Council submitted to that body a recommendation for the reconstruction of Waterloo Bridge across the Thames. Rennie's beautiful structure has now been in service for more than a hundred years, but towards the end of last year it was discovered that a settlement had occurred at the fourth pier from the Lambeth side of the river. Mr. Basil Mott was called in to report on the matter, and with his assistance steps are now being taken with the object of arresting the settlement. The Committee is, however, advised that the settlement must be interpreted as a warning that the effective life of the foundations is coming to an end and that immediate steps should be taken to strengthen the foundations and repair the superstructure. As the cheapest way to reconstruct the foundations is stated to be to take down the bridge and re-erect it, the Committee, in

view of the restricted width—42 feet 6 inches—between the parapets, has come to the conclusion that it would be best to undertake the widening of the bridge at the same time as the foundations are being reconstructed. It is proposed that the new foundations on the up-stream side should be made ready and the greater part of the superstructure transferred on to the new piers. The existing defective piers would then be dug out and replaced by new piers and the remainder of the superstructure utilised. In this way the character and identity of the existing bridge would be preserved. During the reconstruction traffic would be accommodated on a temporary bridge on the down-stream side. A covering figure of one million pounds has been submitted as an estimate of the expenditure on capital account for the proposed works. Opposition to the scheme has already been expressed by several individuals and bodies, principally, it appears, on the ground that it would rob the Charing Cross bridge scheme of some of its objective.

This clearly indicates that the Improvements Committee of the L.C.C. consider the case can be met by a reconstruction of the present bridge on new and wider foundations which would leave it in appearance practically as it now is. It is somewhat inconceivable to us that if the bridge must for purposes of safety be rebuilt any body or bodies should oppose it because they consider that it would render a new bridge they want less necessary. We should have also thought that if it is necessary to reconstruct it would be absurd not to increase the breadth of the bridge, especially as by so doing building would be facilitated.

The R.I.B.A. Papers.

The R.I.B.A. have been fortunate during the last few months in selecting very interesting subjects for discussion at their ordinary meetings, and the discussion which took place after Mr. Goodhart-Rendel's paper on English Gothic Architecture of the Nineteenth Century illustrates the interest aroused by the subject. Such a paper involves an immense amount of preparation and research of a character which is more laborious than most, because the intrinsic excellence of the work under examination is often comparatively small. To-day interest is mostly concentrated on the work of a comparatively small number of men like Bodley and Garner and Temple-Moore and Pearson, who, we may say, landed on a shore which most of their colleagues just failed to reach. We do not think that Mr. Goodhart-Rendel is quite correct in his statement that continuity was really preserved between the old church builders and the modern Gothicists, but would rather say that in the period when Gothic conditions were really dead a few designers were interested in playing with Gothic forms. Many years elapsed before a few designers appeared who caught the spirit of the work they were attempting to emulate, and it is the work of these men here and in America which seems to us to have continuity with mediæval art.

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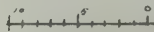
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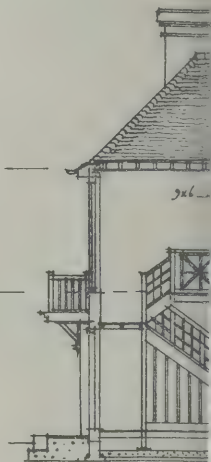
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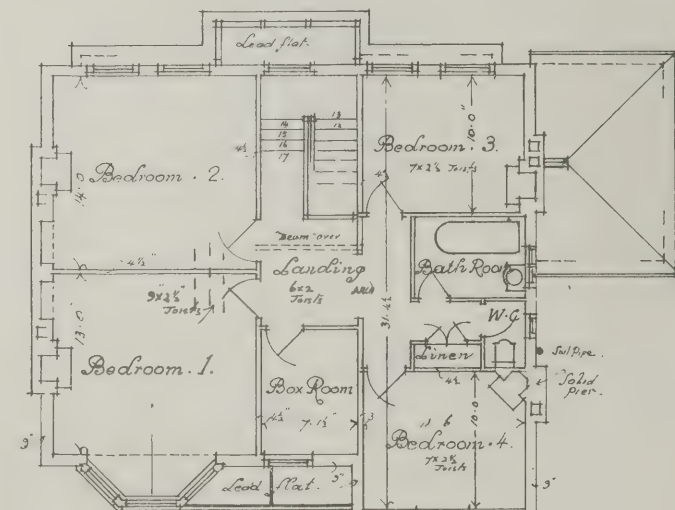
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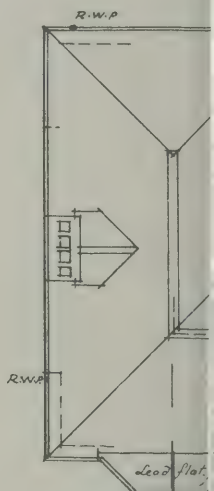
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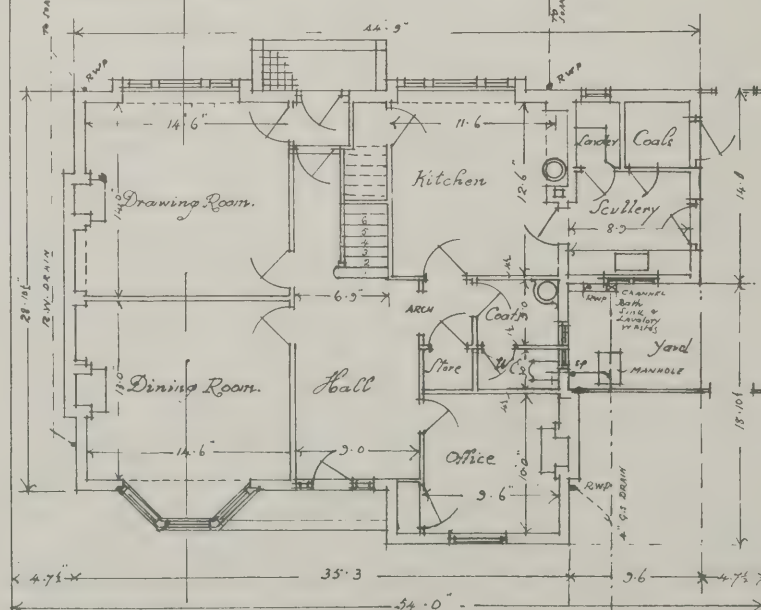
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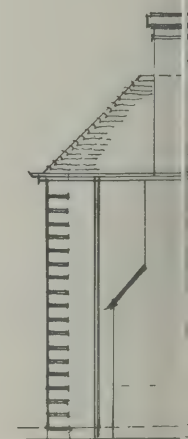
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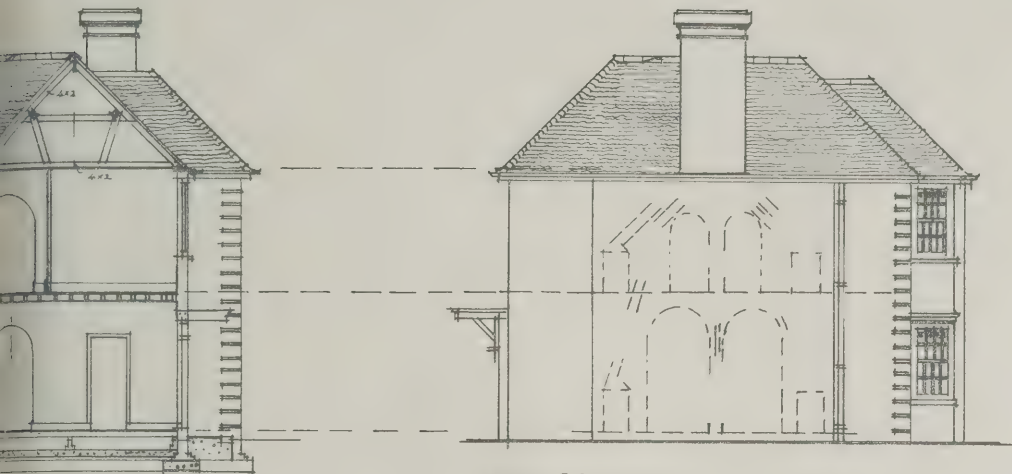


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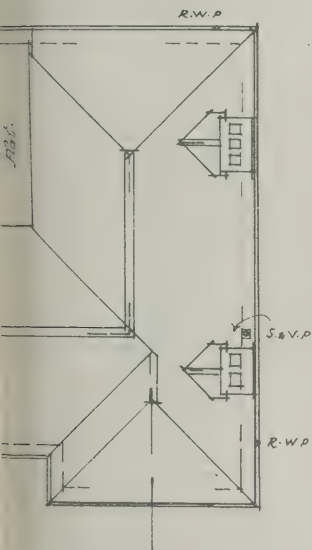
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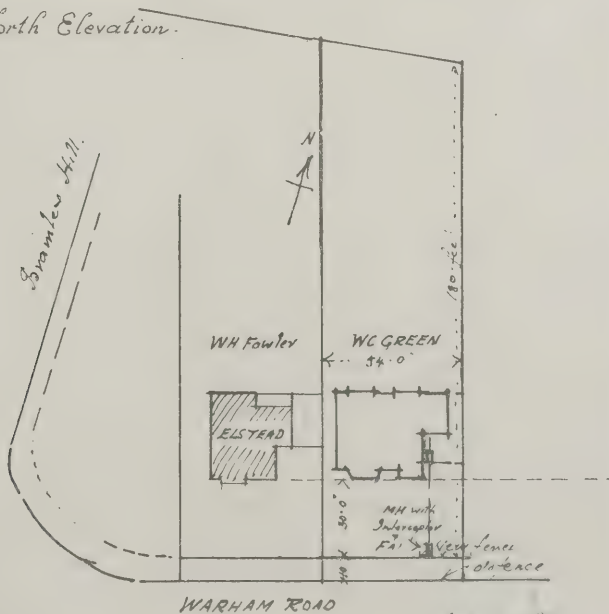
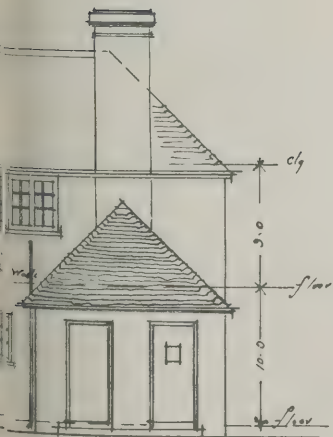
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West Elevation..



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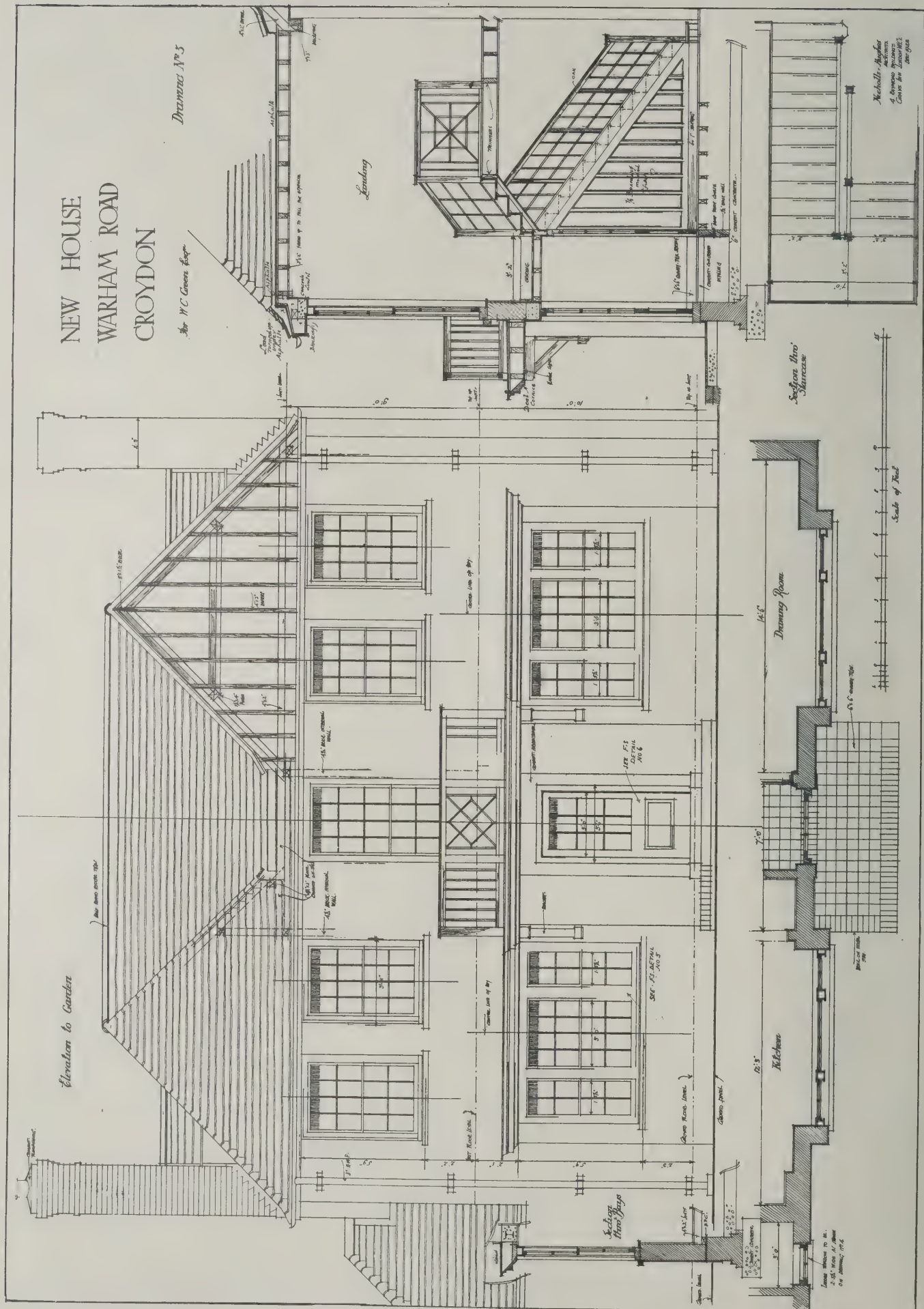


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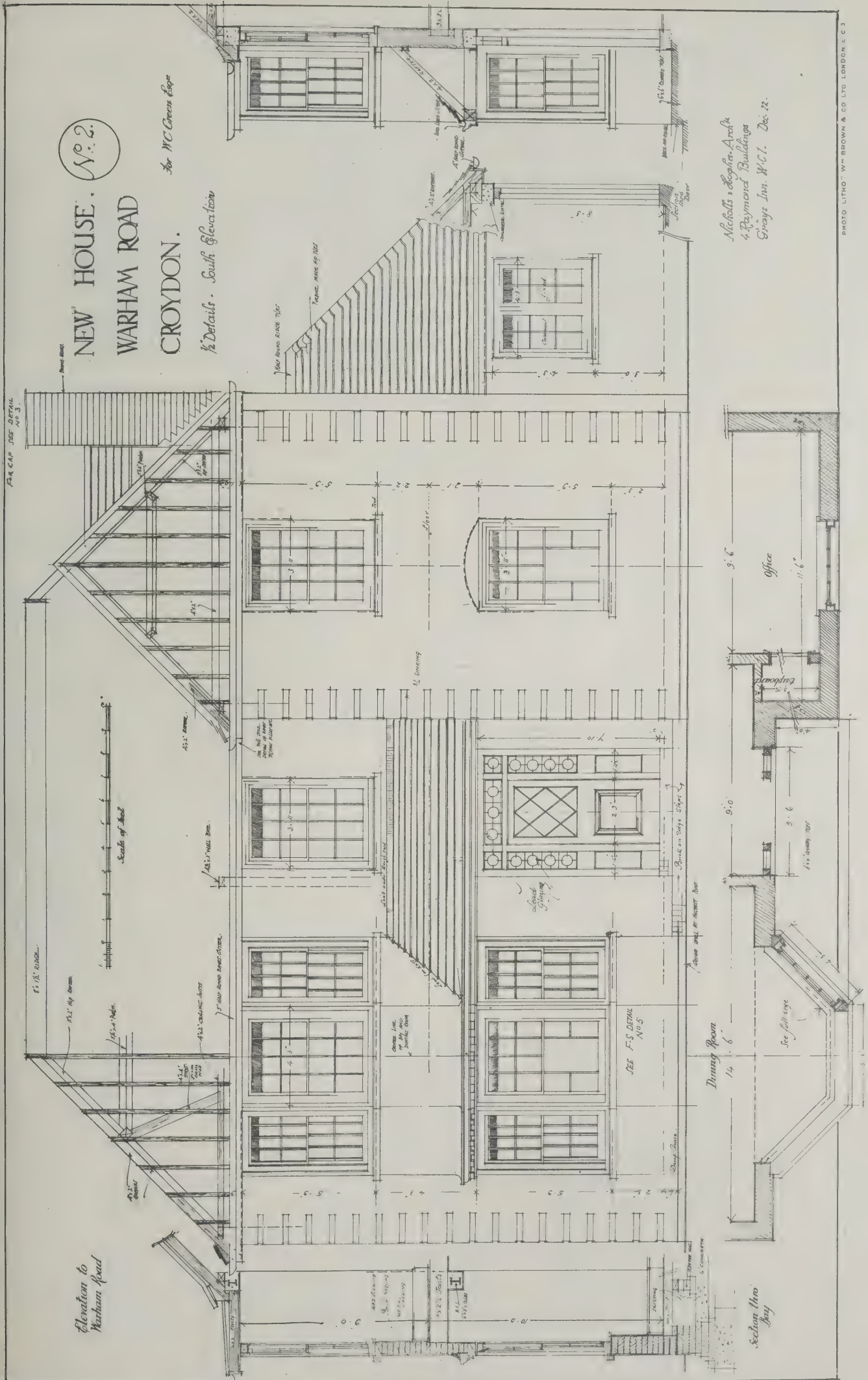
NEW HOUSE,
WARHAM ROAD
CROYDON.

For WC Green Lodge

$\frac{1}{2}$ Details. South. Elevation

Nicholls, Hughes, Archib
4 Raymond Buildings
Erays Inn. W.C.I. Dec. 22.

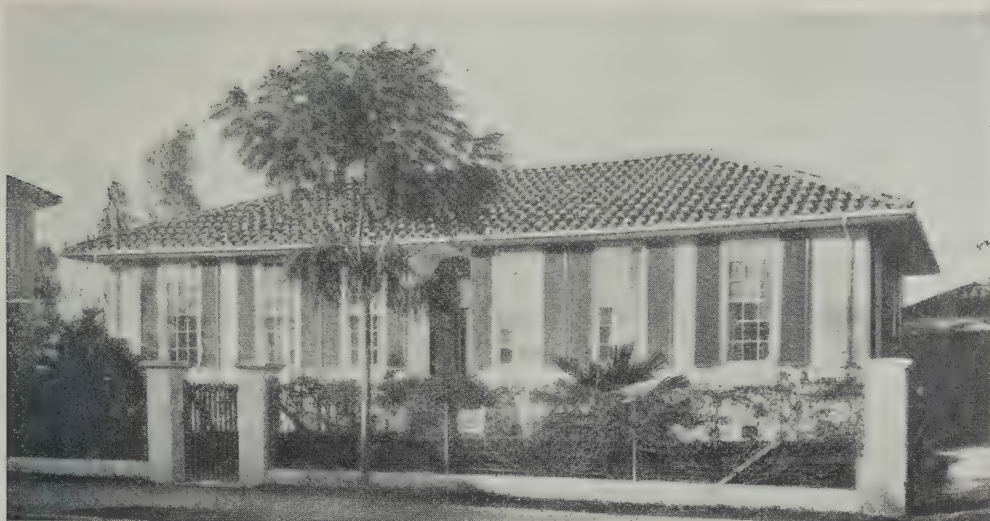
PHOTO LITHO" WM BROWN & CO LTD LONDON E C 3



HOUSE AT WARHAM ROAD, CROYDON.

MESSRS. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, ARCHITECTS,

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HOUSE "A" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

Detail Drawings.

Their Purpose and Their Preparation—I.

By H. BRYANT NEWBOLD, M.S.A., AUTHOR OF "HOUSE AND COTTAGE CONSTRUCTION."

It may be that much of the following will be of interest mainly to the young architect or to the student. Yet even though, for the sake of argument, it may be agreed that all architects are fully alive to the necessity of detail drawings and the care and forethought requisite in their preparation, it is not to be doubted that there is much to be gained, from the architect's point of view, from a more thorough understanding of this matter on the part of the general public.

How frequently even the most experienced architects are met with the following request, taking the self-depreciatory form of "Oh, it need not be a finished drawing. Anything will do. Just a rough pencil sketch on a piece of paper." Much as if an architect was in the habit of preparing his finished drawings upon cloth of gold!

But there is a meaning underlying this request; and as it is a base one, it is just as well that it should be discussed, and dealt its deathblow frankly at the outset. The idea underlying the request is a desire for economy, the theory being that if a plan of any kind is really necessary, the rougher it is the less time will be spent upon its preparation and consequently the cheaper it should be; it being assumed that an architect is a person who makes and sells plans. Though how people holding such views can ever feel the necessity of approaching an architect at all whilst the stub end of a pencil, the back of an envelope and an

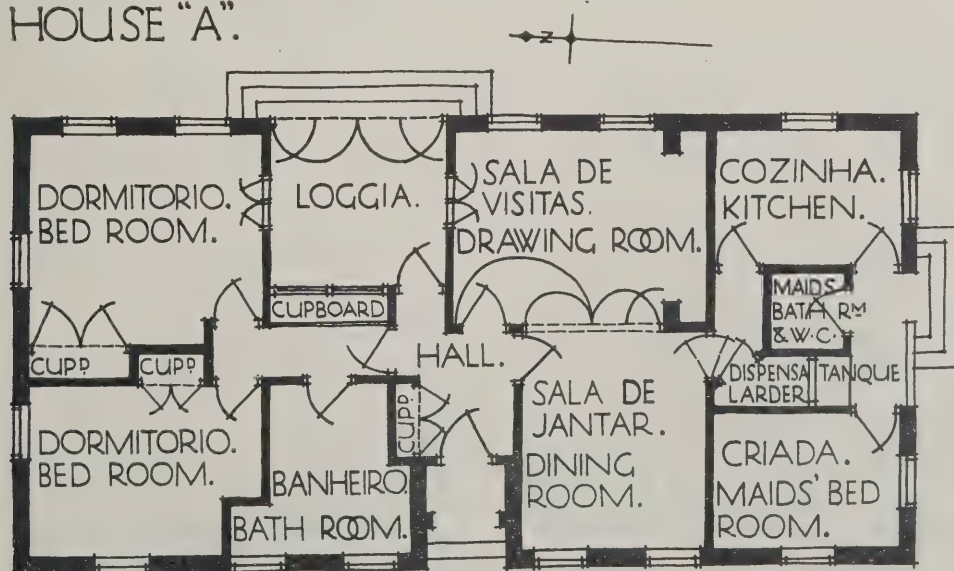
intelligent and unscrupulous builder are to be found, is and always will remain a mystery. The type of mind that can assess the value of an architectural design by the neatness or otherwise of the lines, whether these lines are drawn in ink or pencil, whether the drawing is coloured or left plain, does not seem one which should be capable of the effort of imagination necessary to convince its possessor of the need of an architect in the transaction at all.

It is just as if the composition of a Paachman or the melody of a Mozart were assessed by the neatness of his manuscript. That they are often judged by the length of the musician's hair and the general untidiness of his personal appearance is perhaps as it should be, but it is a fact that, if reasoned out to its logical conclusion, would but lead inevitably to the conviction that the more untidy a drawing is, the more valuable it should be.

But what on earth has the paper, or parchment if you will, and the neatness of the marks thereon to do with artistic or constructional value of the finished product, be it music or poetry or that more tangible thing of bricks and mortar known as a building? Perhaps the mistaken notion that an architect is a person who sells plans is responsible for this indiscretion. Indeed, ignorance, more often than not, is at the bottom of all sin.

At the same time it may perhaps be doubted if this

HOUSE "A".



PLAN OF HOUSE "A" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.



HOUSE "B" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.



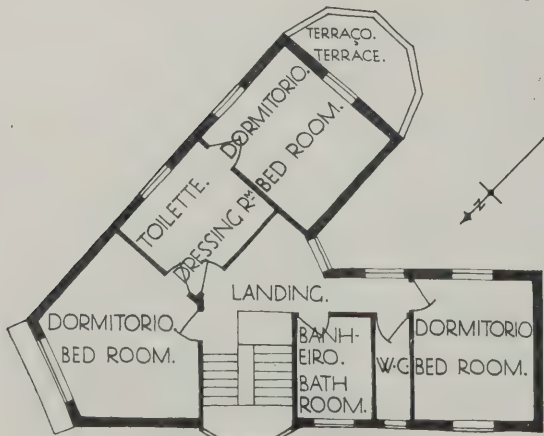
HOUSE "B" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

responsibility in the proper preparation of carefully detailed drawings is recognised even by the entirety of the architectural profession. And in this possibly they are not solely to blame. Certainly not so long as there exists a public that requests and will be satisfied with "*a rough pencil sketch upon a piece of paper*"!

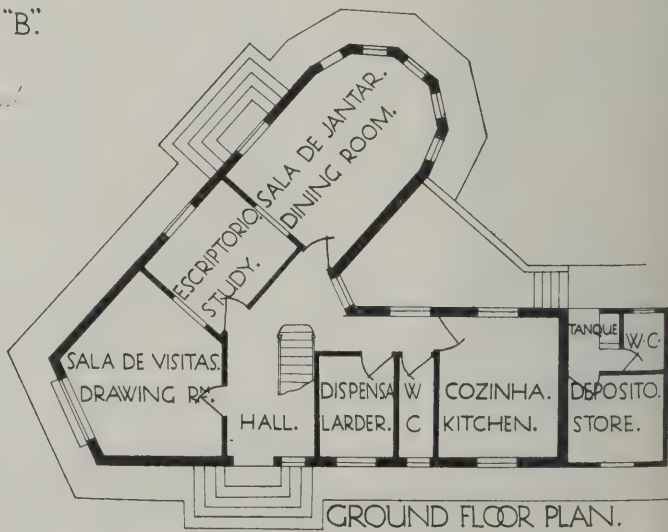
But to the artist in building—the real architect—in the detail drawing, in its proper care and the forethought used in its preparation, will lie the art of the finished product, the soul of the building that results. Therefore to spend some little time in the study of the methods employed in the preparation of detail drawings would seem to be an occupation likely to lead to some profit.

The enthusiastic student of the classics will readily appreciate the value of the module. It is the basis of all design. Let the beginner be not deceived by the artful artman who would persuade him that he has no module in his design, but that his designs just grow like Topsy, or, as the writer was once told by one of the most guileful of present-day designers, that his source of inspiration in architectural design was Edmund Blake on the "*Sublime and Beautiful*." This and all such claptrap affectation is of course, nonsense and deceitfulness. No, there must always be a basis of practical knowledge and workmanship as the module to any art. And to examine the old work

HOUSE "B."



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

PLANS OF HOUSE "B" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.



HOUSE "C" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

that we find so much to our taste, will be no doubt useful, in so far as it serves to teach us in what practical way this pleasing effect has been gained.

In any country where the material most frequently made use of is brick, of course the dimensions of the individual brick will have an effect on the resultant design. But that which will regulate the whole nature of the design more than anything else will be the window panes. This may at first sound like nonsense, but an examination into the practical methods employed by the designer who makes his first care the proper working out of his details may prove it to be the soundest of commonsense.

Therefore let us take the simple operations of the designer of, say, a small house, from the time that he is confronted with a piece of plain paper until he has converted it into the detailed working drawing from which his ideas may be transformed into materials.

It would no doubt be correct to say that the whole thing begins in a kind of chaos; indeed, what is designing but the orderly massing and arrangement of chaotic and seemingly irreconcilable requirements into a harmonious whole? The requirements of the site and its surroundings, the requirements of the clients and, by no means a less important factor, the requirements of the client's wife. All these, to be considered in conjunction with a far more serious requirement or potentiality—the possibilities of the client's pocket; for what we want and what we can afford are, more often than not, two very different things.

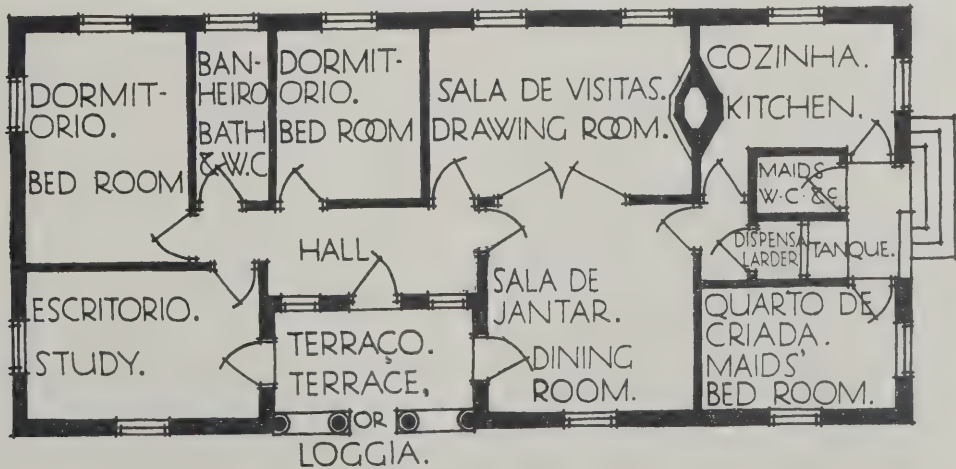
All things being taken into account, this is a time when

the designer will be best left alone. This is a time when the designer's wife, if there is one, will be wise if she keep the difficulties of domestic finance in the background; as it will be a time when the designer's assistant will not be best advised to choose as fitting for a discussion of the ways and means of an assistant's life. During this time the designer will be best left alone. And it is extraordinary how, if this solitude be allowed, to the designer will come order out of chaos, and a genial outlook to eyes so lately clouded with a jaundiced view. The sun will shine again, and the *sturm und drang* will be as if it had not been.

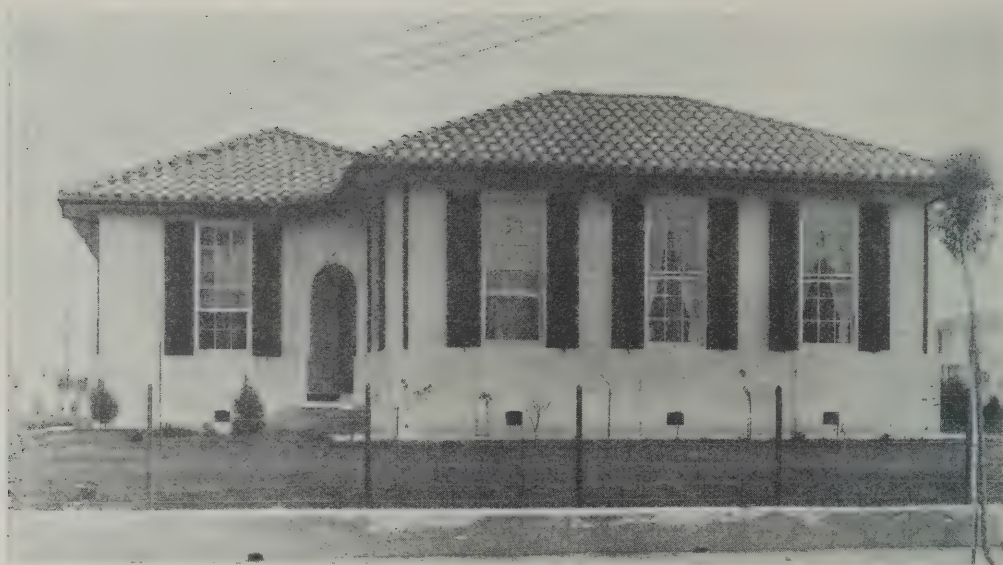
But it should not be supposed, when calm reigns once again, that there has been no battle. This it is that annoys the designer when after the period of his self-communing has passed, and the nice new sketches now lie on the drawing board for inspection, pink in their virginity like any new-born babe, the client, or more often his wife, makes some elementary and obvious suggestion which, if the designer be a designer at all worthy of the name, must have been passed in review by his trained mind and rejected in the early stages of the strife. The point is that, because the $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch scale sketch looks so neat and tidy, it must not convey to the uninitiated the idea that no thought, no worry, has gone to its preparation. In fact, just the opposite is the truth; the more worry the neater and more finished the resultant sketch—*Magna ars est celare artem*, forsooth!

No! the preliminary period of evolving a sketch design is one of considerable stress, when the designer's every

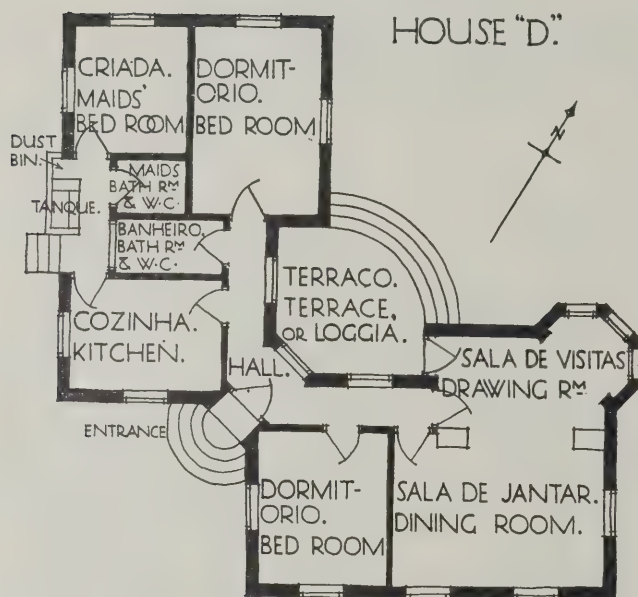
HOUSE "C."



PLAN OF THE ABOVE EXTERIOR VIEW. By BARRY PARKER, Architect.



HOUSE "D" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.



PLAN OF HOUSE "D" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

faculty must be most wide awake, as there are so very many contingent circumstances to be borne in mind, and all at once. Under such conditions the designer must be allowed to employ whatever means seem best suited to his temperament so long only as the result is satisfactory. If he sit with his feet on the mantelpiece or, as did one in San Francisco for whom the writer worked, lie under the drawing table prone upon a camp bed, whose affair is it but his own? Though, perhaps, methods not quite so drastic are requisite to all, yet to most some considerable quantity of scrap tracing paper will be a desirable acquisition. In American offices there is a practice of cutting off about 4 inches of the end of a roll of thin and cheap tracing paper and setting it aside especially for this purpose. The method is convenient and saves considerable loss of time and distraction of the attention at a period of high pressure.

The designer's first steps will be, with a list of the client's requirements at hand, to jot upon the site plan, which site ought invariably to have been visited by the designer several times for the securing of the proper atmosphere, a rough disposition of the main rooms within something like the cubic capacity possible at the estimated expenditure. The result will be something; it may be entirely satisfactory, it may not—much more likely not; something will have been achieved if it is satisfactory in some details. Then comes in the use of the short roll of tracing paper, on whose length, unrolled as needed, but not torn off, are made to appear ideas alternative to the original. Some will be better in one respect, others in

another; but the designer should not rest satisfied until all the resources of his ingenuity have been tried. Then, and then only, he may rest. The final result will never be absolutely satisfying; it cannot be, for the designing of a building is at best a compromise, and a compromise is never quite satisfactory. It is a matter of give and take.

Here, for the student's advantage, it may be well to refer again to the short roll of tracing scrap. The advantage of this method over that of the employment of india-rubber will be readily acknowledged when it is pointed out that very great assistance is gained in this preliminary struggle if all the alternatives can be reviewed together from time to time, which cannot be if they have been rubbed out; and nothing is so annoying as the effort to "recapture the first fine careless rapture" unless it be the failure to do so. But with the unrolled tracing paper it is possible to review all the efforts in turn, to extract the best from each, and to embody them in the final sketch. This final sketch may then be accepted really as quite something more than the word sketch implies. It is, indeed, or should be, if the proper effort has gone to its production, as finished a product as any of the drawings which are to follow later.

Assuming then that the designer has evolved his sketch, let us hurry over the unpleasant period when he has to submit to his client's inspection, saying in passing that it will be a time when all his resources of tactfulness will be tested to their full, and let us take up our tale again when harmony is once again restored and the designer left in solitude with the mangled remains of his once so nice pink sketch. If he be an experienced designer he will have allowed some slight period of time to have elapsed since the strangling of his new-born infant, and he will return to it, his grief somewhat assuaged by recreation such as golf, reading the criminal news in his paper, or what not. Thus revived, after a little time spent in gathering up the remains, it may not seem quite so bad after all. If it is, and he is a man of means, it were advisable to throw it in the waste-paper basket and forget all about it. But if, as is more often the case, bread hangs upon the fragments, he is a wise man who recognises that this side of Jordan souls do get trampled on by those ignorant of what souls are, and so set to work to revise his sketch and from the revision to prepare his $\frac{1}{8}$ in. scale plans and elevations.

Here it may be said that if his preliminary sketching has been done honestly and in the only way that it should—that is, of course, no single line of plan drawn without every due consideration to its effect upon elevation having been given—then the work of preparing his $\frac{1}{8}$ in. scale plans will involve little else but so much donkey-work. Indeed, a practice in the States, and one that might well be followed by every designer, is to dispense with drawings to the scale of $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to the foot and to prepare, direct from the sketches, working details to a scale of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to the foot. These, then, with copious full-size details, will be all that

will be necessary to be prepared. In England, of course, it is the custom to prepare very pretty $\frac{1}{8}$ in. scale contract drawings, and to spend much time with the paint box in company therewith. But if the unfortunate contractor who builds from the resultant design were to be asked if he preferred harmonious colour schemes to $\frac{1}{4}$ in. plans, on which every detail of construction and material were clearly indicated, it may be doubted if he would vote for colour, however warm and beautiful it might be. The matter is one into which our inbred conservatism enters much. Our fathers and their fathers before them drew $\frac{1}{8}$ in. scale coloured plans—so . . . etc.; or, in the words of the classic song, "So we go on and on and on."

However this may be, the idea of the paint box caused much interest, not unmixed with amusement, when told of in America. There, as has been mentioned, from sketch designs, generally of $\frac{1}{16}$ scale, working drawings, plans, elevations, and sections all to a scale of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to the foot are prepared. On these are shown every possible detail, and from these the contractor's estimate is prepared. The advantage, to the estimator, of such a method will be readily appreciated; and it cannot but be felt that the building resulting from drawings in which nothing is left to the imagination must prove more satisfactory to everyone concerned. From the draughtsman's point of view, too, there is this additional advantage: very considerable time and labour is saved when, the ground floor being set out in detail, the other floors and roof plan are prepared on tracing cloth superimposed. The same method when adopted with the elevations, simply turning the ground floor plan round in order to bring each outer wall at the bottom in turn, saves much valuable time and ensures more certain accuracy. Plans prepared in this manner, with the various materials distinguished by recognised hatchings and dottings, then require only inking in. From these inked in drawings it is the simplest of operations, often carried out within the architect's own office, for as many sun prints to be made as may be required. These sun prints, showing the distinguishing cross hatchings, of course, do not require colouring, so that the time of the draughtsman is also saved thereby.

This matter of time may seem, to some in more comfortable circumstances, to be over-stressed; but to any architect by whom outgoings must be carefully watched, and any possible saving in the cost of production desirable, it will appeal as a most decided way of making his occupation the more profitable. And whilst upon this subject it may not come amiss to suggest that the organisation of an architect's office may be as serviceably undertaken as any other. Almost any architect, if he is frank, will confess that he finds a habit very much in vogue with most clients. The habit referred to is that of dropping in for a chat, and just to see how the plans are getting on. The client seems to think this quite within his rights; though he would not infringe upon the time of his doctor or his solicitor in this way. To check the time wasted in this manner let the architect with the neighbourly client have a careful time-sheet prepared of every half-hour spent in consultation, every letter written, every postage stamp and telephone call, and let him add this to the time spent in travelling, supervising and preparing the drawings. Let him then work it out at the rate value he sets upon his own time and that of his staff, and he will be fortunate if he does not find that, added to a certain percentage for office rent and upkeep, it exceeds by no mean sum the percentage upon which he bases his charge.

"But this is a profession. Why introduce these sordid details of business?" it may be asked. Certainly, but it is a profession by which men try to make their living.

The Nottingham Corporation have before them plans prepared by the city engineer, Mr. T. Wallis Gordon, for the erection of baths for the New Basford and Forest Fields Districts. To provide swimming pond 100 feet by 30 feet, which can also be used as a public hall, 18 baths for men, 12 for women, two waiting rooms, office, dwelling house, boiler and filter houses and kitchen. The engineer's estimate for the necessary work is £29,000.

Proposed New Police and Fire Brigade Premises, Bristol—Assessors' Report.

We have carefully examined the 28 designs submitted in this competition. With notable exceptions the standard attained is disappointing. This is due, in our opinion, to the restrictions arising from the problem; the limitations of the site and the existing buildings which have to remain thereon make an imaginative architectural scheme for one great building an impossibility, and this fact, together with the solution of the problem presented to the competitors and the implication that it is undesirable to depart materially from certain of the suggested arrangements, would seem to have discouraged many architects of experience and standing from entering the competition. It is notable that very few competitors have been punctilious in adhering to the letter of your conditions, and some of those who have come nearest to doing so are furthest from architectural excellence. There are, however, individual designs of very great merit, the authors of which have kept, if not the letter, the spirit of the conditions in such material points as the positions and areas of specified units in the design. In this connection it must be remembered that since you prepared your plans you have added considerably to the accommodation which has to be provided and that room must be found for this on additional floors, or by some other expedient. Of the 28 designs, we have selected five, and have awarded them the following positions and premiums:—

We recommend that design numbered 9, by Messrs. Jones & Thomas, architects, Cardiff, awarded the first premium, be carried out. This is a design of exceptional merit. Not only is it a scholarly and refined work, it has also a genuine and legitimate originality based upon a sound knowledge of architecture. The elevations express in a remarkable degree the purpose of the building, and the author should be encouraged and helped to carry out his design with only such minor alterations as may suggest themselves in the process of working the design out in detail. For instance, the elevation to Silver Street would be improved by setting back the entrance gate to the yard to allow of the doorways to the hackney carriage department and to the sergeants' staircase being placed in the flanks instead of the front wall. Possibly a similar improvement could be effected by uniting the entrances to the inspector's office and to the engine house. We suggest also that the doors to the engine house be lowered two feet. For obvious reasons the author has omitted windows to the parade room along the Nelson Street front, a practical necessity fortunately of great aesthetic value. The lighting of this room is from above, but, for purposes of direct ventilation, some windows should be provided opening into the courtyard.

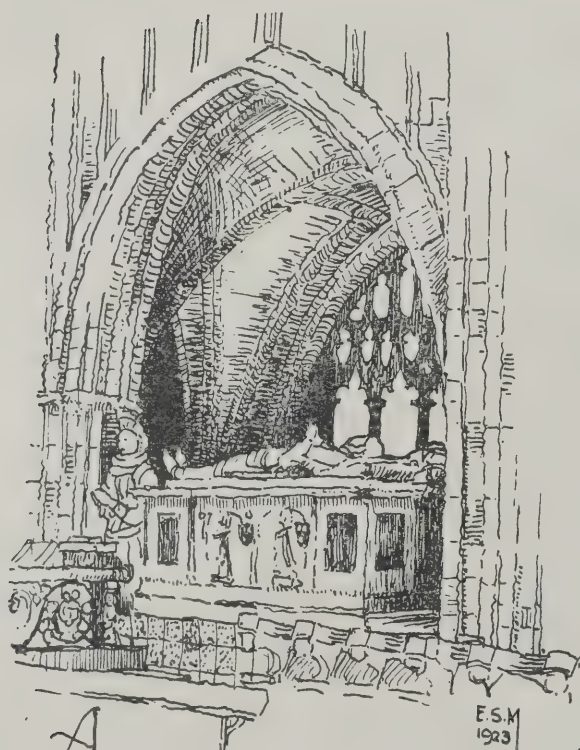
A good feature of this design is the absence of internal areas. This, and the mezzanine floor, the latter necessary to give the accommodation asked for, allows of the yard being larger than you anticipated. The watch room is on this mezzanine, but overlooking the engine room etc., which is possibly a better position than the ground floor. In only one particular, that or the store rooms in the administrative block, is there any apparent shortage of accommodation, and, while storage in excess of that asked for elsewhere is provided, it may be that some rearrangement of plan is necessary to get the space required all in one place. Certain of the Chief Constable's Rooms will have to be regrouped to get them in convenient sequence. We are of opinion that with reasonable care this design, which in many respects is the simplest and most economical of those submitted, can be carried out within the limits of cost imposed by the conditions.

Design number 5, by Messrs. Ashley & Newman, architects, London, we place second in order of merit; the plan very closely adheres to the restrictions and conditions; the elevations are dignified and restrained; minor defects are noticeable in the planning of the Chief Constable's Department and in the width of the stables; the latter is a fault common to many of the plans. The difference of floor level in the engine house makes it impossible to get four of the engines into the yard, except via Silver Street.

We have awarded the third premium to design numbered 21, by E. Vincent Harris, architect, London. This in some respects is the most ambitious architectural composition of any, with many good qualities both in plan and elevation. The planning of the engine house is particularly happy and the elevations to Rupert Street and Nelson Street are charming. We award the fourth premium in equal parts to designs Nos. 4 (Messrs. Smith & Hendy, architects, London) and 10 (Harold E. Todd, architect, Bristol). They are conscientious but undistinguished attempts to solve a difficult architectural problem. Many designs have some attractive quality of plan or elevation, or both.

(Signed) W. CURTIS GREEN. (Signed) GEORGE H. OATLEY.

A Ramble with Pen and Pad



For a simple holiday with a complete change one cannot do better than take a common fountain pen and a small plain writing pad and spend a few days around the hills and dales of Malvern.

I strongly recommend anyone who can to take up pen

sketching, and not to use a pencil or rubber, but just draw in direct with your pen; you will find it rather strange at first, but after a while you will appreciate the easy-flowing pen as a happy medium to express your views, and your eye will soon gauge the proper proportion pretty near right.

The sketches I have given are examples of direct work without the use of rubber or a pencil. Pen sketching should be encouraged (in fact, any form of sketching) rather than the use of a camera, for photography is a fine art in its proper place, but do not let it interfere with your hobby of sketching—for you will find that you will soon become what is known as a lazy artist, and will spoil your eye for proper perspective, besides losing the actual pleasure and the every essence of sketching.

You will find a few hours spent in pen sketching will give you far more pleasure and everlasting enjoyment than just looking over a few small photographic prints, which in most cases soon fade away.



It seems a shame that sketching is not taken up more. These modern times of ours everything is done in the quickest possible way, and everywhere you go one sees an endless line of "snappers," which seems to be a very backward movement; one loses the very idea of art and the training to observe nature.

I know a number of black-and-white artists who pride themselves on being able to make nice pen-and-ink sketches, but these I know for a fact are done by using a photographic bromide print and working over the lines with ink, then bleaching away the photographic part, which, of course, leaves you a nice drawing, but surely this is not sketching; it is one great sham, and why do this awful make-believe?

A few notes about the sketches will, I know, interest you; these sketches were done during my rambles around the town and just on the outskirts. The interiors I managed to do on a wet day, but am glad to say that I had to spend only

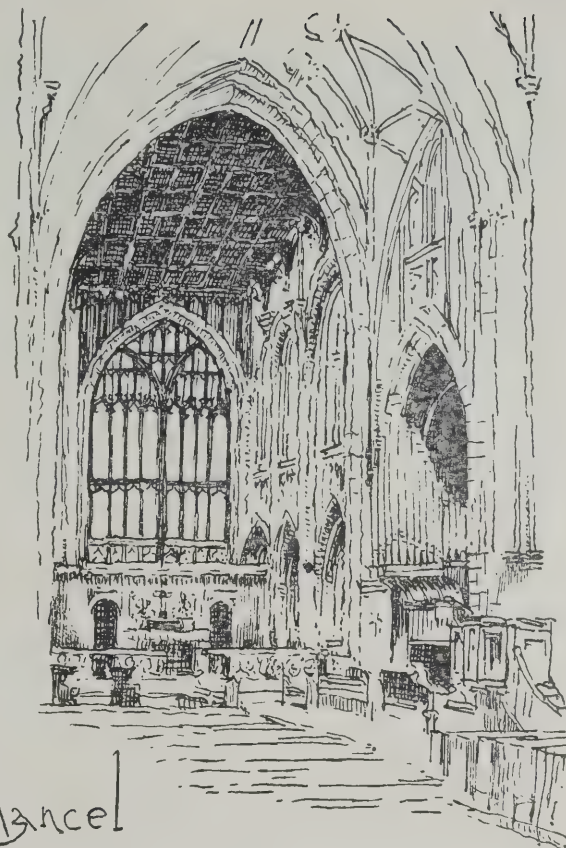


one day inside Priory Church, which is one of wondrous beauty, portions of which date back to 1085. Its principal architectural points of interest are the Norman columns and arches to the nave, and the glorious chancel with its morning chapel; the tower is somewhat of a copy of Gloucester Cathedral, and is a good example of the Perpendicular period.

The church is fully worth one's while to study carefully: the old choir stalls with carvings of grotesque animals and heads (I only wish I had time to sketch one or two!), the old Bible chained to its oaken stand, the encaustic tiles around the chancel walls and portions of the end of the nave—these are said to have been made by the monks in a kiln at the Priory Farm. The tiles are worth looking into, the detail being very fine and the colour rather a tan shade; the designs are very curious.

In the surrounding grounds one can find several old pieces of fifteenth-century work; for instance, the fine old cross facing the entrance gates and the quaint old sundial, which one would judge as being part of a grave-stone. It is far too worn to trace any inscription.

The Abbey gateway, which adjoins the church, is the only portion remaining of the ancient Malvern Priory, chartered by the Conqueror and endowed by Henry I. It is kept in



a perfect condition, and is used now as offices for an architect.

In walking around the outskirts of the town one finds many quaint fifteenth-century homes that it is a pleasure to see, and they are kept and restored in a perfect condition. One in particular I could not refrain from sketching—the old home, Pickerleigh House. This is a credit to anyone and fully worth while looking around. It is a very good example of real half-timber construction, which some of the details will show. The fence is one very rarely seen these days. It is formed out of rough logs which are split and wood-pegged to the rail; it makes one of the simplest and strongest fences, and yet the effect blends so well with the buildings.

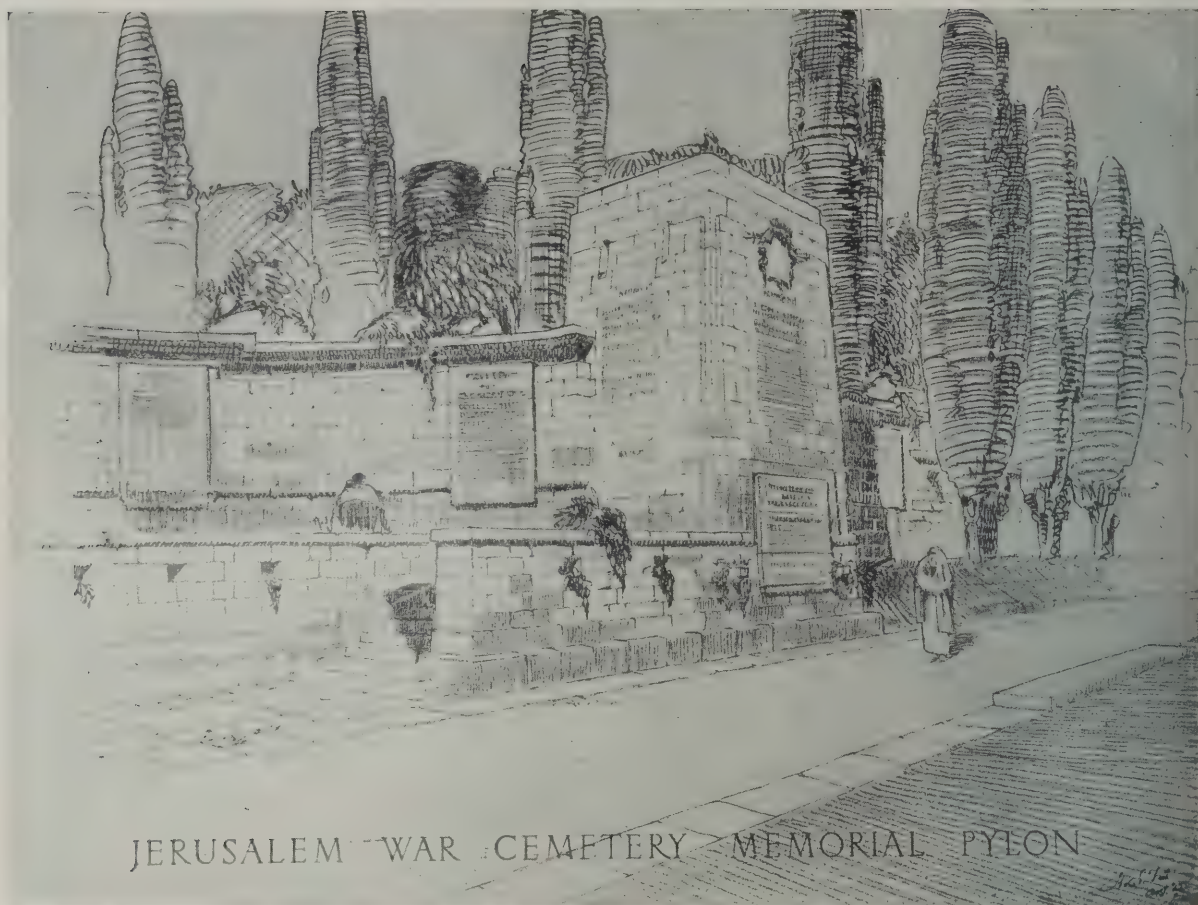
Little thatched half-timbered cottages are often found in the most unlooked-for places. The one I saw in Spring Lane was an unexpected pleasure, and the rent, I was told, is £7 a year, and belongs to the Earl Beauchamp.

Malvern is fairly modern, with just a touch of the old to make it interesting. The surrounding country is, of course, very fine and of great interest to all art lovers.

It is peculiar to most country towns that its inhabitants know very little about the places of interest outside of the village church. This fact was very forcibly brought to my notice by being advised to take the bus to Worcester, as Malvern was very modern and up-to-date, and most of the old buildings I should find in Worcester.

E. STANLEY MITTON.

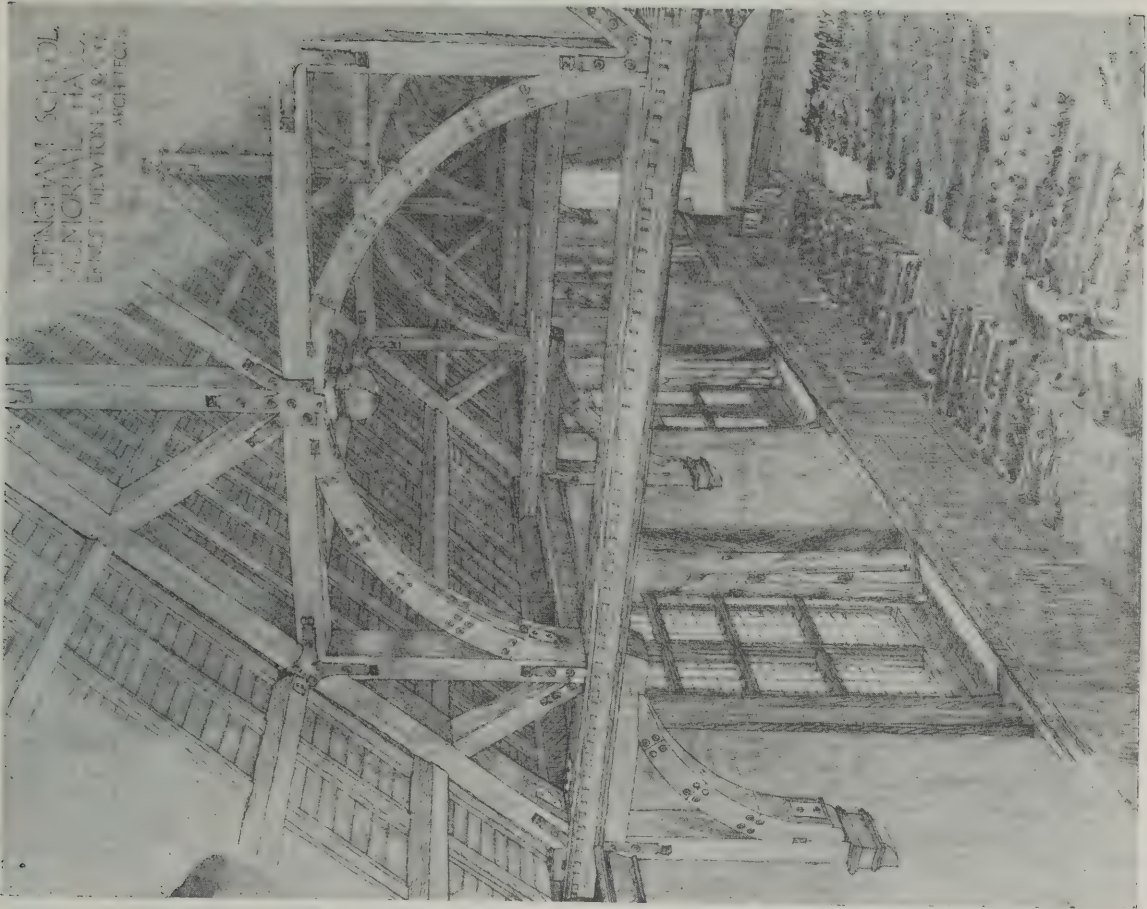
The steady flow of ink of the Waterman Fountain pen facilitates sketching. The nibs are flexible and permit with ease the many line effects so keenly desired by all pen draughtsmen. Rough handling does not seem to cause any injury to the pens. By rough handling, I mean rapid movements over the paper surface when the artist is in the full enthusiasm of the rendering of the subject. Thick, heavily shaded masses are easily produced, and work with a ruler is made simple by virtue of the smooth surface of the ebonite penholder. [ILLUSTRATIONS EDITOR.]



JERUSALEM WAR CEMETERY MEMORIAL PYLON. SIR JOHN T. BURNET, A.R.A., & PARTNERS, Architects.
Drawing by T. S. TAIT.



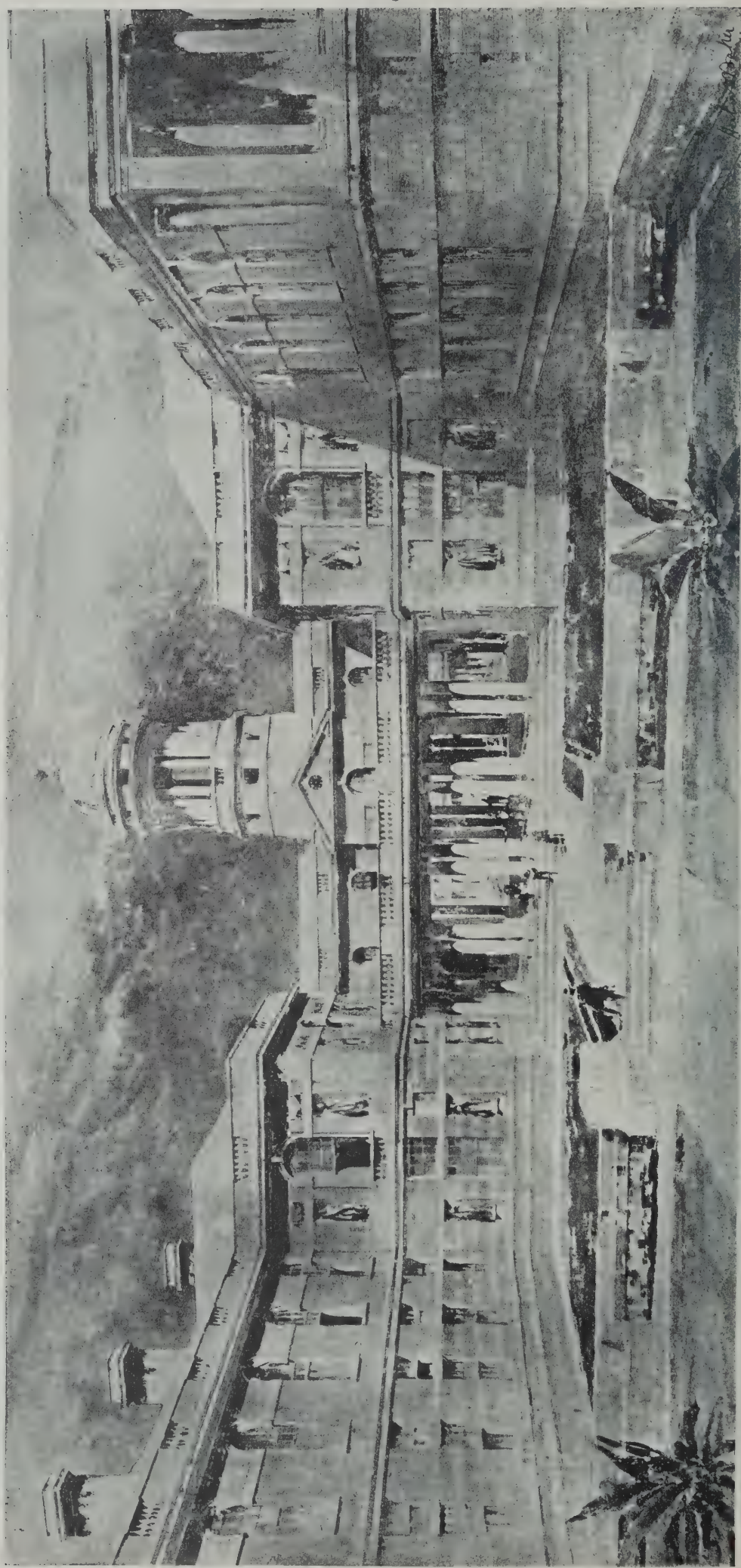
VILLA ARCADIA, JOHANNESBURG. HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect.
Drawing by W. WALCOT.



ROOF OF MEMORIAL HALL, UPPINGHAM SCHOOL.
W. G. & H. A. NEWTON, Architects.



HOUSE IN ARGYLLSHIRE: THE POWER HOUSE.
OLIVER HILL, Architect.



MEDICAL RESEARCH BUILDINGS, JOHANNESBURG. HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect.

Drawing by W. WALCOTT.

An Exhibition of Architectural Draughtmanship at the Building Trades Exhibition, Olympia

The organisers of the Building Trades Exhibition invited us to arrange an exhibition of Architectural Drawings, and it occurred to us that in view of the many exhibitions of architectural work illustrated by photography it would be of general interest to collect a number of original drawings which illustrate some of the recent best work of our architectural draughtsmen. Through the kindness of some of our professional friends we have been able to exhibit the following works.—THE EDITOR.

ATKINSON, ROBERT, 36, Bedford Square, W.C.1.

Regent Theatre, Brighton, Entrance Hall, Main Entrance, Queen's Road, General Interior View, Auditorium Foyer, Ship Café, Italian Restaurant, Garden at Cherkeley, The Terrace, Garden at Cherkeley, Decorations of the Saloon, Cherkeley, Leatherhead, Interior of Church at Hammersmith.

BAILLIE SCOTT & BERESFORD, 8, Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1.

Country Cottages, Dining Room, St. Catherine Court, Somerset; Cottage, Interior, House at Shorts Hill, New Jersey, U.S.A.; the Hall, White House, Great Chart.

BAKER, HERBERT, A.R.A., 14, Barton Street, Westminster, S.W.

Villa Arcadia, Johannesburg, Union Buildings, Pretoria, Institute of Medical Research, Johannesburg.

BURNET, SIR JOHN, A.R.A., & PARTNERS, 1, Montague Place, W.C.1.

Jerusalem War Cemetery Memorial Pylon (drawing by T. S. Tait).

CLARKSON, T. P. & E. S., & H. AUSTEN HALL, 6, New Burlington Street, W.1.

New Premises, Oxford Street (drawing by P. D. Hepworth).

CROSS, A. W. S., 46, New Bond Street, W.

Haggerston Baths (drawing by C. E. Mallows).

DAWBER, E. GUY, 18, Maddox Street, Regent Street, W.1.

Stowell Hill, Somerset; Loggia at Boveridge Park, Dorset (drawings by P. D. Hepworth); Nutley Down, Hampshire (drawing by Alec Horsnell).

FAREY, CYRIL A., 19, Bedford Square, W.C.

Design for a Country Residence for a Royal Personage, Maisons Lafitte, Lisseweghe, Reims; Spencer Lodge, Hampstead, Chichester.

GOODHART RENDEL, H. S., 60, Tufton Street, S.W.

Proposed House at Aurland, Conversion of old Farmhouse, Cannes, France (drawings by F. L. Griggs).

HART, A. H., & L. WATERHOUSE, 1, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

Recent additions to Cuddesdon College, Oxon (drawing by A. H. Hart). House at Enfield, Middlesex (drawing by the late G. Gascoyne). Redcote, Haslemere (drawing by A. H. Hart).

HEPWORTH, P. D., 7, Gray's Inn Place, W.C.1.

House at Baythorne End, Essex, L'Usine, La Cloture, Les Portails, Les Marches, La Cathedrale, House near Hatfield, House at Dallington, Northampton, Bungalow near Halstead.

HILL, OLIVER, 23, Golden Square, W.1.

House in Argyllshire, The Power House, Entrance Front, The South Terrace, The Kitchen Court (drawing by F. Griggs), Marshland St. James, Norfolk, Wembley Garden Suburb (drawing by MacDonald Gill), Hammersmith Broadway Offices (drawing by H. F. Waring), Tsi-Nan-Fie, Shantung, China (drawing by H. F. Waring), Holliday House, South Coast (drawing by A. R. Thomson), Quality Court (drawing by W. Keesey).

HUBBARD, GEORGE, & SON, 45, New Bond Street, W.1.

Britwell, Berkhamsted (drawing by the late C. E. Mallows).

LOWRY, ROBERT, & F. WOODHOUSE, 33, St. James's Street, S.W.1.

Cottage at Amersham, Concrete Cottage near Richmond, House at Twickenham, Proposed Bungalow near Richmond, Two Cottages at St. Margaret's, Sketches at Piquiny.

MAUFE, EDWARD, 3, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

Lloyds Bank, Leicester Square, W.C. (drawing by Norman Howard).

NEWTON, ERNEST, R.A., 4, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

Two views of Old Castle, Dallington (drawing by Alec Horsnell), House at Hambleton (drawing by Cyril A. Farey).

NEWTON, ERNEST, R.A., & SONS, & W. NICHOLLS, 4, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

Monastere Du Carmel (drawing by Cyril A. Farey).

NEWTON, W. G. & H. A., 4, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

Roof of Memorial Hall, Uppingham School (drawing by W. G. Newton).

NICHOLLS, W., & HUGHES, 4, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

House at Worth (drawing by Cyril A. Farey).

PRENTICE, ANDREW N., Hastings House, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

Notgrove Manor; New Stable Block and Cottage, Lyndhurst; Greenock; Stenigot Manor, Lincs.; Combe, Glos.

Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia—I.



POSTER FOR THE EXHIBITION. Designed by
HUGH W. MARTIN-KAYE.

Messrs. Robert Adams, 3 and 5, Emerald Street, Holborn, London, W.C.1, Stand No. 58, Row D. On this exhibition stand will be seen working models of all the new patterns of the "Victor" door springs for use not only in buildings but for important ship work. Many accessory fittings for doors are also shown, such as brass adjustable shoes and top centres for the door springs, etc. A new model of the "X-IT" panic bolts is also exhibited, with an extensive range of fanlight openers, closers and fasteners, including the "Victor" patent series. New models of casement bolts, stays and fasteners, metal windows and accessories. Many designs for door furniture and locks of all descriptions are also to be seen on the stand.

Messrs. Adamite Co., Ltd., Regent House, Regent Street, W.1, Stand No. 98, Row E. Here Mr. Frederic Coleman has arranged a striking exhibit which shows "Atlas White" Portland cement and "Colemanoid" ("Colemanite"), the well-known colloidal concrete hardener and waterproofer. The principal exhibit on Mr. Coleman's stand will be "The Spirit of the Rocks," a statue executed in white concrete stone, the sculptor being Mr. F. Doyle Jones. The aggregate employed with the "Atlas White" Portland cement to produce this cast stone is Cornish granite, the cement being brushed off the surface to expose the aggregate. The production of the stone in which "The Spirit of the Rocks" is cast is in the hands of Messrs. Emerson & Norris, Ltd. Beside "The Spirit of the Rocks," Mr. Coleman will show, on Stand No. 98, a doorway designed by Messrs. Williams & Cox, F.R.I.B.A., in a manner of the Tudor period, suitable for domestic buildings. This doorway is carried out in cast concrete stone by Messrs. Emerson & Norris, Ltd. A charming result may be obtained by the use of this material, properly treated, by careful attention to texture and colour. The cast stone in the doorway, which will be shown on the Adamite Company's stand, is manufactured from "Atlas White" Portland cement, and selected aggregate carefully graded. The doorway is so arranged that it will illustrate both exterior and interior finishes. Beside "The Spirit of the Rocks" and the Tudor doorway, many examples of the use of "Colemanoid" and "Atlas White" Portland cement in various lines of interest to architects and contractors will be shown, as well as a comprehensive exhibition of British aggregates.

Messrs. Aerostyle, Ltd., 35, St. Bride Street, E.C.4, are showing on Stand No. 122, Row F, the patent "Aerostyle" portable paint sprayer. Daily demonstrations are given of the working of this paint sprayer, which has been specially designed with a view to fulfilling the essential need of easy portability.

Messrs. Herbert Alexander & Co., Ltd., Charnmouth Street, Leeds, are showing on Stand No. 231, Row L, a number of brick making machines, together with samples of bricks produced. Amongst these are to be found sand-lime, slag-lime, clinker-lime silica refractory, magnesite refractory bricks, and also bricks made on the stiff plastic process from shale and on the plastic wire cut process from plastic clays.

Messrs. D. Anderson & Son, Ltd., Park Road Works, Stretford, Manchester; Roach Road Works, Old Ford, London, E.3; and Lagan Felt Works, Belfast, are exhibiting, on Stand 118, Row F, all classes of "Red Hand" roofing, sarking and lining felts and dampcourses; also "Rok," Stoneflex" and "Hippo" roofing. The special exhibits consist of a section showing the construction of a "Belfast" roof, and a section demonstrating Anderson's flat roofing system. Both these form the actual roof of the stand, and access to them is gained by a stairway. "Rok" roofing, and "Ferro-Rok" are used as roof coverings on the Belfast roof. Wood fencing treated with "Sidel" wood preservative is shown; the stairway to the "Belfast" roof and the flat roof is likewise treated, as also is all other woodwork of the stand. A model of a patched slated roof is on view to demonstrate the application of "Bondex" plastic compound.

Messrs. Art Metal Equipment Co., Ltd., 184-188 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2, Stand 108, Row F, have utilised the space at their disposal by showing in an effective way their various manufactures, including steel doors for all openings, steel screens and partitions, as well as steel furniture and fittings. The new premises of Messrs. Selfridge and Messrs. Peter Robinson have been made absolutely fireproof by the installation of steel doors and partitions. It would be practicable immediately on the outbreak of fire to confine the same to the smallest possible area. The Art Metal Equipment Company's system in the manufacture of shutters consists of rolling steel doors made of interlocking steel slats, the working parts being fitted with ball bearings to ensure ease of operation. The Japanese earthquake was a very concrete example of the futility of erecting fireproof buildings unless both external and internal openings are properly protected. Alone in a vast area of ruined buildings a three-storey structure of a bank, occupying an area of 200 feet, remained intact after the fire, and it is evidence that this building was equipped with steel doors and shutters identical to those supplied by this company. The manufacture of steel cubicles for lavatories, which can be finished in white or cream stoved enamel if desired; all types of partitioning manufactured in steel, both plain and glazed, with doors *en suite*; steel office furniture, ranging from steel bookcases and shelving to tables and desks, filing cabinets, cupboards, etc., are a speciality maintained by this firm. Anti-Slip Stair Treads of British manufacture throughout, in cast iron, cast bronze or aluminium, with carborundum grit cast into the surface, are now being made a feature, and as "safety first" is the key-note of the day, those interested would be well advised to ask for samples and further information at the Stand, which is most certainly one of the best exhibits of the exhibition.

The Australian Concrete Machinery and Engineering Co., Ltd., Pardon Road, Brixton, S.W.2, are displaying on Stand No. 125, Row F, a number of concrete mixing machines, amongst which will be seen the "Tonkin" concrete mixing machine, the "Australia" block-making machine, the "Speedy" crusher and the "Ideal" steel general purpose barrow. This barrow is constructed of light strong steel and is specially suitable for handling concrete, mortar, compo, etc.

Messrs. Bath Artercraft, Ltd., Studio Works and Offices, Lower Bristol Road, Bath, England, Stand No. 162, Row H, have erected a stand of very simple architectural outline, but with a certain freshness in design and character. Part of it is devoted to showing a portion of a dining room panelled in oak with Grinling Gibbons style of carvings in lime tree. Another portion represents a part of a room panelled in mahogany. One end of the stand is fitted with a bay window, and at the sides are displayed a series of hardwood doors in oak, walnut, teak, etc.; some of these are flush doors suitable for office and hospital use, others are framed, panelled and moulded. Some recesses are fitted with wood mantelpieces and with various styles of wood panelling. Part of the floor is laid in oak and parquetry and part covered with

"Velvuto" rubber flooring, a new special floor material produced by an associated firm. Some interesting examples of modern cabinet work are to be seen in the furniture displayed in these rooms.

Messrs. The Beaver Board Co., Ltd., 133-136 High Holborn, W.C.1, Stand No. 307, Row R, are showing examples of panelling executed in Beaver Board, which are five-ply boards pressed together into panels of $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick and 36-48 inches wide in lengths of 8 to 16 feet.

Messrs. Bell's Poilite and Everite Co., Ltd., 59½, Southwark Street, S.E., London, and 29, Peter Street, Manchester. The Stand, No. 279, Row P, takes the form of an aerial tower, 60 feet high, octagonal at the base, the roof of the octagon demonstrating the application of Poilite russet-brown pantiles, and other forms of Poilite tiling. The portion above the octagon is 11 feet square, and is clad externally with the new "super" corrugated "Everite" sheeting, known as "Everite Big-Six." The portion above this is 7 feet square, clad externally with "Standard Everite" corrugated sheeting.

The roofing between the two square portions of the tower shows the application of "Poilite" straight cover slating in various colours; the top of the tower is covered with a hipped roof consisting of "Poilite" red standard diagonal tiling. The space under the octagonal roof is open, the superstructure being supported on piers, and visitors to the Exhibition will therefore have ample accommodation for perusing the firm's literature and examining samples of all the various forms in which "Poilite" and "Everite" are produced, in addition to those of which the actual application is demonstrated on the exterior of the magnificent tower.

Messrs. George Blay, New Malden, London, S.W., Stand No. 320, Row S, is showing steel buildings, in No. 12 and 14 gauge corrugated steel sheets (*i.e.*, six and four times respectively the thickness of ordinary corrugated iron). Self-supporting in that no structural work or bracing of any kind is necessary. Easily and quickly erected by simply bolting the sheets together. Practically indestructible, cost of upkeep comparatively nil. Complete buildings supplied in all lengths, widths and heights. Steel casements, standard cottage pattern, open and fixed types in various sizes. Pumps—centrifugal, portable electric, and diaphragm, suction and delivery from 2 inches to 22 inches. Output from 2,000 to 600,000 gallons per hour. Flares—acetylene, 5-ply, with gunmetal couplings, 20 feet lengths. Picks and pick helves—all sizes and weights. Fencing, in oak and fir.

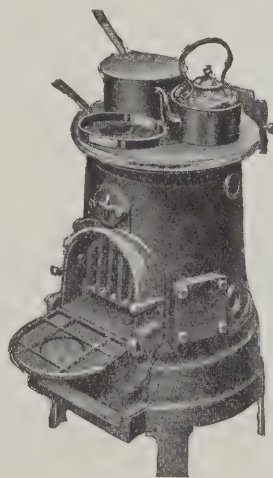
Messrs. William Briggs & Sons, Ltd., 5 Cowgate, Dundee, Stand No. 34, Row C, are showing all kinds of building specialities. One of the vital factors in building is the use of a dependable and lasting dampcourse. Many old houses in London were built without dampcourses of any kind, with the result that their basement rooms, unless constantly under the influence of artificial heating, are damp. The wallpapers peel off and the health and comfort of the occupants suffer in consequence. On this Stand the visitor will find displayed Briggs' Natural Bitumen Dampcourses, and patent roofings of a very high quality. Many other building specialities are also displayed.

Messrs. British Fibrocement Works, Ltd., head office and works: Erith, Kent; and at London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Swansea, Dublin and Belfast. The Stand, No. 144, Row G, has been specially designed to illustrate the many various "Fibrent" asbestos-cement manufactures. *Roof.*—The various slopes of the roof illustrate "Fibrent" diagonal and straight pattern slating in grey, blue-black, purple and red and antique brown. "Fibrent" corrugated sheeting is also shown. It can be curved to any radius and is manufactured also in colours. One slope shows "Fibrotiles," registered patent 200,703, of which the company are the sole manufacturers. In addition to their pleasing appearance and enormous strength, they have the advantage of being laid straight joint without the usual troublesome mitring of the corners. *Walls and Ceilings.*—The external treatment shows the use alternatively of "Fibrent" corrugated and flat sheets. Scalloped slates and weather sheeting are also shown, and these are highly suitable for vertical work and most effective for overcoming damp walls in exposed positions. One gable illustrates the half-timbered effect that is readily obtained. The interior is fitted with flat sheeting and the several finishing methods that may be adopted. The end wall is constructed of "Fibrent" panel sheets and shows the method of fixing with rebated joint. On the floor "Fibrent" flat sheets, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, have been used, fixed direct to joists. Among the many advantageous characteristics of "Fibrent" asbestos-cement material the following are of particular interest:—Economy and rapidity of construction; fire-resisting to the

highest degree and permanent. The material improves and hardens with age and exposure, does not crumble or rust or require to be painted for preservation. Being an insulator, "Fibrent" material ensures an even temperature in buildings.

The British Paving Brick Association, formed in February, 1923, for the purpose of advising on road construction in brick, is exhibiting a section of paving composed of eleven kinds of brick, approved for first-class road surfaces, on Stands Nos. 237-238, Row M. They are laid on a sand bed about half an inch thick and are jointed with approved bitumen, manufactured especially, under the Association's directions, by Messrs. Major & Co., Ltd., of 12 Norfolk Street, Strand, at their Hull works. The bitumen used is pure fluxed Mexphalte, with which is incorporated a special fine mineral filler. The bricks used have all passed the Standard Rattler test, the actual loss of the individual type of brick shown varying from 17.8 to 24 per cent. They are of a type made and sold hitherto as engineering bricks, which resist crushing stress varying from 600 to 1,049 tons per square foot. They are tough and not brittle, uniform in texture, non-absorbent, and, unlike natural stones, do not wear appreciably more when wet than when dry. The Ministry of Transport allows the Association to state that it will approve of and support its recommendations in all matters concerning the laying of brick roads. The Association will greatly appreciate offers from any interested surveyors, engineers, or architects to lay trial sections in any part of the country. The Standard Rattler testing machine is also shown. Ten bricks of the kind to be tested are placed in the drum with 10 iron spheres $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, and about 250 spheres about $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches diameter, the total weight of the spheres being 300 lb. The drum is then revolved at 30 revolutions per minute for one hour—total, 1,800 revolutions. The bricks are weighed before and after the test; and in order to qualify as first-class quality pavers, they should not lose more than 26 per cent. of their weight.

Messrs. O. Bruster, 4 Lloyds Avenue, London, E.C.3, Stand No. 220, Row L. Here visitors will be able to see the "Baseco" patent boiler and the "Glow-worm" and the "Baby Glow-worm" boilers. The aim of the "Glow-worm" is to supply an abundant amount of hot water for domestic purposes. Simple cooking operations can also be performed on the hot plate.



The entire house can be heated by means of the "Glow-worm" and radiators. The stove and boiler perform many functions of an eminently useful kind in the household.

Messrs. The Burlington Slate Quarries, Kirkby-in-Furness, North Lancashire, Stand No. 248, Row N.—The pavilion is constructed of slate and stone from the Burlington Slate Quarries, demonstrating the application of these materials in various ways for different purposes. It is floored with slate flags, some of which, it will be seen, are rectangular, whilst others, of random sizes and irregular contours, are arranged in the popular "crazy pattern" paving. The main piers which carry the roof are of slate stone in varying thicknesses, having weathered bed-joints in accordance with local custom. The enclosing walls are constructed in a similar manner. The roof and the upper parts of the enclosing walls are covered with slates which illustrate some of the numerous sizes, qualities and colours produced at the quarries. The slates are known as "North Lancashire" or "Westmorland Dark Blue." It is claimed that they constitute the most durable and, wherever a permanent structure is required, the most economical roofing material in the country, that their appearance is unexcelled, and that their texture brings within reach advantages in effect which are otherwise unobtainable.

Messrs. Butters Bros. & Co., Sentinel House, Southampton Row, W.C.1, Stand No. 317, Row S. Here some interesting models are on view which include a 1"-scale working model of 15 ton electric overhead crane, another 1"-scale model of a 5 ton electric derrick crane and a model of a 3 ton-hand derrick crane. Many photographic views of considerable interest are also shown on the stand.

Messrs. A. A. Byrd & Co., 11 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, Stand No. 239, Row N, are showing the "Metaform" interlocking steel forms for moulding any shape or form in concrete *in situ*. A single course 2 feet high, composed mainly of standard forms 24 inches by 24 inches, with an assortment of fractional widths of plates, inside and outside, right-angle corner units and hinged corner units are set up around the entire stand, forming a wall 2 feet high, with various projections and recesses to illustrate how easy it is to follow any form with the standard units. At one or more points a portion of the second course is erected on top of the first 2-foot course to illustrate how this and the succeeding courses are dealt with. There are also samples of the various other standard and special types of "Metaforms" for various classes of concrete construction. A sample section of finished wall is also exhibited to show how perfectly smooth is the face of the wall as left by the plates when removed, making rendering unnecessary. Various other appliances for bending and cutting steel reinforcement bars, etc., are also to be found on this stand, as also a complete range of the Wallace electric bench wood-working machines, demonstrations are given with them periodically showing how speedily they deal with planing, rabbetting, ripping, cross-cutting, moulding.

Messrs. George M. Callender & Co., Ltd., 25 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, are exhibiting on Stand No. 67, Row D. Callender's "Callendrite" sheeting, the waterproofing medium for open and covered service and storage reservoirs, filter beds, swimming baths, lakes, ponds, etc. A model reservoirs constructed of wood with sloping sides, lined throughout with "Callendrite" sheeting, which is under a practical water test. In the centre of the reservoir is a column of loose porous bricks under the top course of which, just above water level, is inserted a piece of "Callendrite" dampcourse. Just above the dampcourse it will be noticed that the bricks are perfectly dry. Another interesting exhibit which actually demonstrates all the claims made for Callender's "Protex" is a wall showing a portion treated with "Protex", applied directly on to the brick; another portion showing "Protex" applied to plaster papered over. On both these portions a water jet saturates the wall from the back. An examination of the front surfaces effectively demonstrates the value of "Protex" as a damp resister. Many other eminently useful materials are exhibited, and will repay a careful inspection by any member of the profession.

Messrs. Camp & Co, Ltd., 41A Blenheim Crescent, Ladbroke Grove, W. 11, are displaying a number of patents on Stand No. 276, Row P. The "Sollink" sash chain for window sashes has a breaking strain of over 400 lb., and is to be specially recommended for use where heavy plate glass windows are fitted.

Messrs. Cardon & Co., Ltd., Chespale Works, Penshurst Station, Kent, are showing on Stand No. 54, Row C, eight different styles of "Chespale" fencing. Some designs in the rustic style of gates for hand and field gates are also included on the stand, with tree guards and tree stakes.

Messrs. Walter Carson & Sons, Grove Works, Battersea, London, S.W.11, are displaying on Stand No. 207, Row K, a very large variety of their specially prepared paints. Messrs. Carsons have devoted their attention to perfecting various classes of paint, which will resist climatic influences far more successfully than white lead, and have introduced in the market their Anti-Corrosion "Vitrolite" and pure liquid paints. The former can be recommended for all general decorative work, conservatories, forcing houses, and all horticultural buildings. It is supplied all ready for use in either white or light stone colour. It dries with a hard enamel-like finish. "Muraprime" is a preparation to be used as a priming for "Muraline" and all distempers. The priming is successfully applied to porous plaster walls, where the wall is of unequal absorption, and is supplied in four colours—white, yellow, green and pink. "Muraline" is supplied in forty artistic shades, and it is a washable water paint. Water is added to the powder in equal proportions—one hundred-weight of powder covers 600-700 square yards of non-porous surfaces. On paper, wood, stone, slate, tile and metallic surfaces, one or two coats; on brick, compo and plaster, two coats are needed. Messrs. Carsons are showing in addition to these exhibits a number of other paints, all of which have been prepared after a careful study and many experiments. They include "Coverine," "Japolite," "Velvarine," "Plastine," "Mala-

mure," La Belle enamel, metallic paints, porcelaine enamel, graphite paint, hard gloss paint, implement paint, wood preservative, and varnishes.

The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., 8 Lloyds Avenue, London, E.C.3, are represented at the exhibition by an office on Stand No. 117, Row F, where a most hearty welcome is offered to all friends and customers.

Messrs. Charles Churchill & Co., Ltd., 9-15 Leonard Street, Finsbury, London, E.C.2, Stand No. 291, Row Q, are showing Alundum Safety Products, floor and stair nosing tiles and mosaic tiles. Aggregates for treating cement floors and terrazzo to render them slip-proof, in two sizes and in various colours. Pre-cast terrazzo tiles, reinforced mats suitable for tramcars, omnibuses, trains, etc. Samples of pre-cast stair treads and slabs treated with aggregates, and others with tiles and aggregates combined; samples of rubbing bricks, Manning abrasive cloths and papers, waterproof flint paper, garnet paper, and Metalite cloth and paper for polishing metals, are also displayed on the stand.

Messrs. The Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 246 High Holborn, W.C.1, Stand No. 153, Row G. Here will be seen examples of metal windows of every description. Amongst the novelties, the outstanding feature of interest is the new "Zincspra" process which is applied to metal windows to make them permanently rustproof. Another novelty is a special new range of standard windows produced for use in tropical countries, and a new type of hospital window is shown. Interesting examples of architectural bronzework are included, and also a complete range of the various standard metal windows and doors for modern houses.

Messrs. Cuirass Products, Ltd. 69 Victoria Street, S.W.1, Stand 188, Row J, are showing examples of their bituminous paints, and No. 1 black anti-corrosive paint. Actual demonstration of roofs coated and repaired with their Cuirass No. 6 liquid proofing, also a glass roof repaired with their Cuirass No. 18 putty compound are shown. These roofs are subjected to a continuous downpour of water, giving indisputable evidence of the quality of this material.

Messrs. Cayless Bros., C.B.B. Works, Battersea Park Road, S.W.8, Stand No. 177, Row J. Here we see a fine display of all the necessary accessories and plant used in the building trade, The "C.B.B." patent telescopic ladders in two and three sections with many patented improvements are also to be seen and personally inspected. Messrs. Cayless Bros. inform us that they are the actual manufacturers and that all their exhibits can be supplied direct to all users.

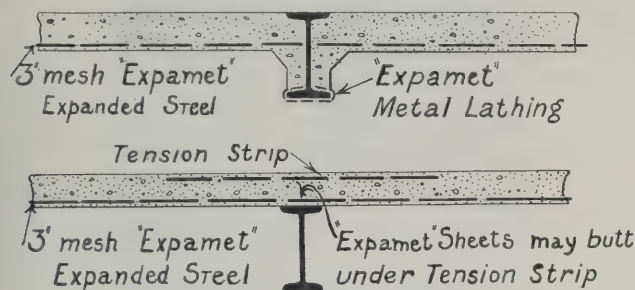
Messrs. Dawson & Co., Ltd., Mendip Wharf, York Road, Battersea, London, S.W.11, Stand No. 277, Row P, have organised an exhibit which displays in different sections sanitary ware, brick samples, cement and plasters, partitions in breeze concrete, etc. Paints, varnishes and all kinds of decorators' materials are also shown on the stand in an effective way.

Messrs. Drew, Clark & Co., Diamond Patent Ladder Works, Leyton, E.10, are showing on Stand No. 204, Row K, Drew's patent telescopic ladders, in two, three and four sections, from 9 to 90 feet; Higgs' & Drew's patent "Raprig" sectional scaffold, a very practical scaffold for interior decorations of institutions, clubs, hospitals, theatres, cinemas, public buildings etc. Telescopic ladders have undoubtedly greatly facilitated every kind of building and decorating work in recent years.

Messrs. Drytone, Ltd., 73 Gower Street, W.C., Stand No. 61, Row D. The exhibit comprises the following productions:—*Drytone Doors*, which are stocked in three materials, British Columbia pine, Western hemlock and red cedar, and in two sizes—namely, 6 feet 4 inches by 2 feet 4 inches, and 6 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 4 inches. Variations in materials or dimensions can, however, be produced without delay. The timber is selected from the finest stocks and is guaranteed to be entirely free from knots. *Drytone Panelling*: A standardised wall panelling showing the wonderfully decorative value of the Drytone process on inexpensive timbers—e.g., British Columbia pine, Western hemlock, red cedar, and on several Indian and Japanese woods not yet in general use. *Drytone Furniture*: An exhibit of pieces of inexpensive furniture of sound construction and unique finish is also included.

Messrs. The Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., York Mansion, Petty France, Westminster, S.W.1, Stand No. 151, Row G. The exhibit consists of samples of the company's products and examples of their uses; also photographs of various works

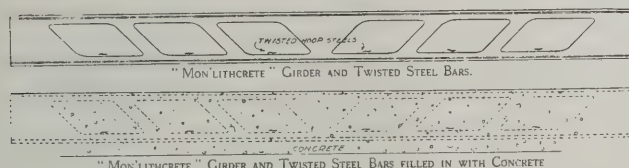
carried out on its systems. "Expamet" steel sheet reinforcement for concrete (which has been in successful and ever-increasing use all over the world for more than 30 years) in foundations, walls, floors, roofs, bridges, culverts, silos, etc. R.R. 6 inch mesh "Expamet" reinforcement for roadways, pavings, etc.



"BB" and "Expamet" lathings for interior and exterior plaster work, also "Ribmet" ribbed lathing. "Exmet" reinforcement for brickwork, concrete-block work, partition slabs, asphalt, etc. Mild steel wall-ties for cavity walls. Section of culvert reinforced with "Expamet." Sections of flooring reinforced with "Expamet." Section of paving reinforced with R.R. 6 inch mesh "Expamet." Brick cavity wall to office reinforced with "Exmet."

Messrs. Fassio Products, Ltd., 6 Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W.1, Stand No. 44, Row C. This exhibit takes the form of a pavilion made of Fassio throughout, which shows some of the decorative and strikingly natural effects obtainable by Fassio marble. It will be easily recognised that the resemblance to real marble is very remarkable.

Messrs. Fawcett Construction Co., Ltd., 65 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, Stand No. 180, Row J. The chief exhibits here consist of examples of "Mon'lithcrete" and tubular floor constructions which consists of rolled steel girders (from which the superfluous compression web metal has been sheared) and



concrete. The concrete takes the vertical compression or, in other words, does the work of compression web members in lattice girders. Twisted hoop steels are passed through the web openings and buried in the concrete as bond in the opposite direction.

Messrs. Fernden Fencing Co., Ltd., Bridge Street, Guildford, Surrey, Stand No. 41, Row C, are displaying a large range of Fernden cleft chestnut pale fencing patterns in various heights suitable for all purposes, in British oak, larch, chestnut, fir, etc. Examples of their special oak park paling are also shown.

Ferodo, Ltd., Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire, Stand No. 60, Row D. This firm show a full range of samples of their well-known fabric stair treads, with several models showing methods of fixing nosings and treads to various types of stairs. These treads are specially woven from cotton and treated by a process which makes them exceedingly durable and long wearing. They are supplied in various colours, which are permanent, and the material retains its non-clipping qualities and good appearance however well worn. Samples are also shown of "Feroleum" nosings and flooring material, which is made from fine Para rubber and "Ferodo" fibre, both corrugated and plain.

Messrs. John Fowler & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., have on Stand 241, Row N, a selection of their machines for concrete mixing and stone breaking. The concrete machinery section should be of great interest to architects in view of the rapidly growing uses for concrete and ferro-concrete construction, because they will prove to them the advantages both in quality and quantity of machine-mixed concrete over hand-mixed. This would appear a necessary object-lesson and should result in the elimination from specifications of hand-mixed concrete being insisted upon, which is still included in so many.

The Fowler concrete mixers are made in the following sizes:—6/4, 10/7, 21/14, 32/21, 42/28, 80/56. This system of double numbering has been introduced to give the number of cubic feet of unmixed materials which can be loaded into the drum, shown by the first figure, and also the quantity of mixed concrete produced, given by the second figure.

The reputation of Messrs. John Fowler & Co., Ltd., as locomotive builders and engineers is sufficient guarantee as to the reliability of workmanship and material used in their concrete mixers. They have been designed to give a maximum of output combined with the highest quality of concrete.

Messrs. Joseph Freeman, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wandsworth, S.W.18, Stand No. 312, Row R. This exhibit indicates possibilities of decorative work in cement, concrete, plaster, roughcast, etc., by the use of Freeman's "Cementone" products for colouring. Examples are shown in panels of roughcast, tinted in various shades, by the incorporation of No. 1 "Cementone" colours with the roughcasting materials. Variegated designs in imitation of the world's finest marbles and granites, mosaics and composition flooring. Freeman's No. 7 "Cementone" coloured glazes are applied to all types of wall materials as shown on the stand. The glazes also form an exceedingly durable, washable decorative material for concrete floors, chemically combining with the surface. Freeman's No. 4 "Cementone" waterproofing liquids, colourless, indicate their use by their title. Many other exhibits of interest are to be seen on the stand.

Messrs. Thomas Fildes, Thornton Street Iron and Copper Works, Manchester, Stand 289, Row Q, exhibit a range of copper goods in connection with hot water installations, and copper range boilers and hot water cylinders, copper combination tanks are also exhibited. Their patent "Cyltank" is to be seen on the Stand. Amongst a large display of interesting items and number of well-designed geysers for gas and oil fuel will be found which are quite worth a special study.

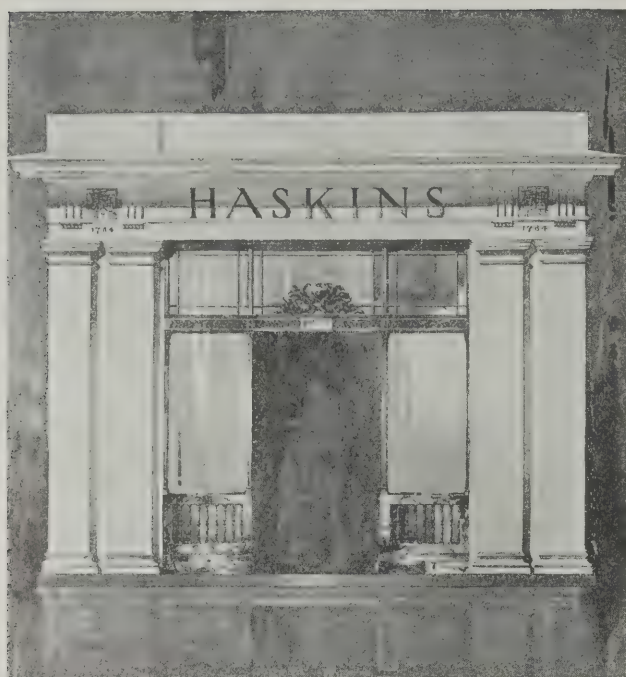
Messrs. Gawthorp & Sons, Ltd., 4 Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, Stand No. 270, Row P, are showing examples of oak panelling and other art woodwork, marble and alabaster and "Culu" brass and bronze tablets, commercial and domestic wrought iron work, repoussé work, stained glass and general decorative work.

Messrs. J. Gliksten & Son, Ltd., Carpenter's Road, Stratford, E.15, have displayed on Stand No. 91, Row E, some fine examples of mahogany (Honduras and Cuba), wainscot oak (Austrian, Riga and Japanese), teak (Moulmein and Rangoon), American whitewood, walnut, American oak, figured and plain; oak, teak and maple floorings.

Messrs. R. W. Greeff & Co., Ltd., Thames House, Queen Street Place, E.C.4, Stand No. 89, Row E, are showing "Kronos" titanium white. The search for non-poisonous pigments for use in paint manufacture has revealed this new material, prepared from the metal titanium. Its absolute harmlessness to human beings is shown by some novel X-ray photographs. The unrivalled opacity or body of this pigment, which is one of its chief characteristics, is illustrated by various interesting exhibits, including panels in which it is painted out over differently coloured backgrounds, showing the complete obliteration in one coat. Exposure tests of paint made with it are also exhibited. These show a remarkable condition of the surface after four years' hard wear, the paint having neither cracked nor peeled, but worn away from the surface, leaving an excellent condition for repainting. Examples of "Wetordry" waterproof sandpaper are also shown by Messrs. R. W. Greeff & Co., Ltd., on this stand.

Messrs. Haunchwood Brick and Tile Co., Ltd., Nuneaton, Stand No. 62, Row D, are showing samples of practically all their manufactures, including numerous kinds of blue and brindle bricks. Amongst these we mention 3-inch pressed blue bricks without frog for L.C.C. sewer contracts, and pressed blue bricks with frog, 2½ inches or 3 inches thick, they being bricks which are largely used for bank strong-rooms and work of a similar character. Other samples included are blue stable and path pavers, blue kerbings and channelings, blue platform and wall copes, garden edging of various colours, red, blue, buff and salt-glazed ventilating bricks, red and blue flooring quarries; red, blue and buff ridges and finials; red, blue, buff and salt-glazed chimney pots; firebricks and firequarries; sanitary pipes and connections, garden vases, land drain pipes, hollow blocks for wall and floors, sand-faced fireplace bricks, etc. etc.

Messrs. Haskins, Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow, E.17, Stand No. 278, Row P. On this stand will be seen a "Kalamein" bronze shopfront. "Kalamein" is Haskins' economical process of drawing bronze on hardwood core. Some samples are shown of Haskins' 2,000 stock sections for the building trade. Another exhibit is an extruded bronze metal shopfront, showing how dark coin bronze can be enlivened by well-placed touches of coloured enamel. This treatment is very pleasing and effective.



A pair of Haskins' "Firola" fireproof doors for enclosing party wall openings are also shown, with examples of Haskins' "Servesi" fittings.

Messrs. The Hoisting Appliance Co., Atlas Iron Works, 35 37 39 Hornsey Road, Holloway, N.7, Stand No. 56, Row D, are showing in operation one of their one-ton builders' self-landing hoists, also an electric passenger lift gear and electric service lift in operation; their various kinds of hand-power lifts, and a range of several other useful hoisting appliances.

Messrs. The Hemel Hempstead Patent Brick Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead, Herts, Stand No. 119, Row F. On this stand the exhibitors are displaying samples of their terra cotta partition blocks, hollow floor tiles, and building blocks. It is possible to drive nails or screws into the partition blocks. They can also be sawn or tooled as required, and are manufactured either keyed for plastering or smooth both faces.

Messrs. The Hopton-Wood Stone Firms, Ltd., Wirksworth, Derbyshire, and 40-43 Norfolk Street, Strand, Stand No. 246, Row N. The whole exhibit is built with various qualities of stone and in different colourings. The balustrade and step in front of the stand is in Hopton-Wood stone. The back wall outside portion in Hopton-Wood stone rustic finish. The inner side left hand has been decorated with Derbyshire black bird's eye marble. Other parts are carried out with Derbyshire fossil marble panels. The floor of the stand is in various designs executed partly in Derbyshire black and grey bird's eye marble. Many samples of Hopton-Wood stone and Derbyshire grey and black bird's eye marble and fossil marble are displayed.

The Interoven Stove Co., Ltd., 156 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2 Stand No. 210, Row K, and Stand No. 233, Row L—"Interoven" and "Super-Interoven" convertible cooking and heating stoves (Pascall's patents), for cooking all the meals, baking bread and pastry, and giving ample supply of hot water for baths and domestic purposes, and a cosy fire all day. The stoves are instantly convertible from cooking stove to open fire sitting-room grate. It is claimed that they save coal, space and labour. Over



60,000 "Interovens" are now in use. Models of "Bewty" expanding barless fire fronts (Pascall's patent), for modernising old-fashioned sitting and bedroom grates; also "Bewty Minor" and "Bewty" dog grates are exhibited on the stand. "Ten-in-One" adjustable steel-bottom grates (Pascall's patent), and wrought welded range boilers of every description, making in all a very attractive and useful exhibit. Cooking demonstrations will be given on Stand No. 233, Row L, close to the Addison Road entrance. Demonstration on the merits and general uses of the Super-Interoven will be given on Stand No. 210, Row K.

Messrs. Jones & Attwood, Ltd., Titan Works, Stourbridge, Stand No. 68, Row D, are showing the following exhibits amongst a variety of fittings and tools:—The "Domestikatum" boiler, providing a continuous supply of hot water for all domestic purposes combined with a cheerful open fire; the "Hortikatum" cast iron tubular boiler for brickwork setting; the "Batheater" combined boiler and storage cylinder for domestic hot water supply purposes; the "Cultivatum" boiler for greenhouse and motor house heating.

Messrs. Johnson's Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Stand No. 146, Row G. This company is displaying in a practical manner their specialities of concrete reinforcements—viz., "Lattice," "Keedon," and "Bricktor." Lattice.—This well-known mesh reinforcement has been designed and is manufactured exclusively for concrete floors, roofs, walls, roads, culverts, tanks, and similar constructions. It provides for a completed article ready for laying in concrete, reducing the labour charges and risks of displacement to a minimum. "Keedon" fittings used in conjunction with ordinary round mild steel bars for concrete beams, columns, etc., have proved to be both efficient and economical, and, in application, have the distinct advantage of combining rigid and yet adjustable members with a non-slipping bar. Bricktor.—The reinforcement for all kinds of brickwork, partition slabs, concrete block work, etc., where extra strength and lightness of construction are required. This firm have carried out very extensive works in reinforced concrete, some typical examples of which will be seen in the display of photographs exhibited.

Messrs. T. C. Jones & Co., Ltd., of Shepherd's Bush, London, W.12, Stand No. 249, Row N, show some of the forms in which the firm's steelwork can be used and the effects which can be obtained by the use of aluminium paint when applied to steelwork. The structure of the stand shows five different types of roof trusses and four different kinds of roof coverings, as well as a steel staircase.

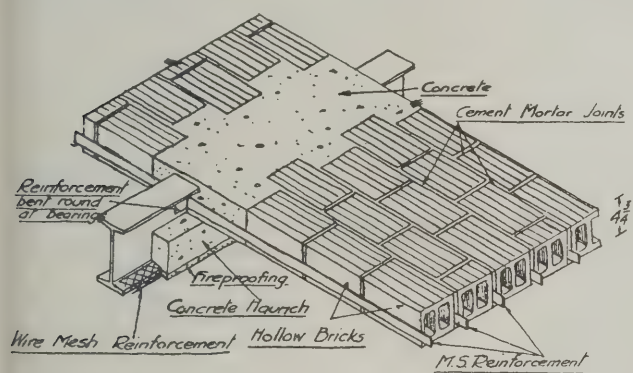
W. Kennedy, Station Works, Warwick Road, West Drayton, Middlesex, is displaying on Stand No. 52, Row C, a number of examples of the Kennedy patent bending machine. Demonstrations are being given with these machines daily, where it will be seen that tubes and various solid sections up to 2 inches are bent into the required shapes and directions cold. These machines are most useful for all work connected with reinforced concrete.

Messrs. Kerner-Greenwood & Co., Ltd., King's Lynn, Stand No. 49, Row C. This firm's stand will be familiar to those who visited the previous exhibitions. The lettering provides a good example of commercial signwriting that is in consonance with present-day architectural standards, and architects will also be interested in the original drawings by Mr. Leonard Squirrell and other artists which have been recently used to illustrate this firm's advertisements in the building Press. As at the last exhibition, a prominent position is given to the apparatus by which cylinders of cement and sand are subjected to water pressures up to 300 lb. per square inch. A notice is displayed to the effect that the cylinder of sand and cement waterproofed

with "Pudlo" brand powder under test at that pressure for the whole period of the exhibition will be broken open on the final day in view of all who care to attend. All of the other exhibits are of an essentially practical character and demonstrate the waterproofing qualities of "Pudlo" brand powder when used with cement in mortar or concrete for excluding dampness or flood water from buildings or retaining water in tanks and reservoirs. Several of these models were constructed on the site by casual hired labour, which provides good proof of the makers' claim that "Pudlo" brand waterproofer is capable of the most efficient results in the hands of the labour employed by the ordinary builder.

The Key Engineering Co., Ltd., 4 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4; Trafford Park, Manchester; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, Stand No. 267, Row O. The main exhibit shown on this stand is flexible asbestos roofing. The two back walls are covered to a height of 5 feet 6 inches with standard weight smooth grey surface roofing, the joints being lapped and fastened with their special strip roofing clamps. Above this will be seen two signboards formed of three-ply white surface flexible asbestos roofing, the lettering being formed of black under slate asbestos lining felt. Diagonally across the back corner is a structure roofed with red slate surfaced asbestos felt, the vertical wall being panelled with green surfaced similar material. Rolls of roofing, photographs and results of blow-lamp tests to demonstrate fire protection, etc., are displayed. Messrs. Key's floating ball simplicity steam traps for steam heating and cooking installations and also high pressure work are shown. Also samples of Key fibre conduit, the impregnated wood pulp pipe used for underground cable ducts and drainage.

Messrs. The Kleine Fire Resisting Flooring Syndicate, Ltd., 134-138, High Holborn, W.C.1, Stand No. 116, Row F., show as usual, their admirable system of fire resisting floor, which maintains the very high place it has won in the estimation of constructional experts. Its lightness and strength are both well known, and it is very questionable whether the County Council's regulations as to the thickness of concrete above the structural



members is not wholly unnecessary as applied to this most scientific method of construction. If this can, as we believe, be demonstrated, the regulations which increase the cost of the application of the system are likely to be relaxed, and a great impetus will be given to the extended use of the system.

Messrs. The Kent Building Co., Ltd., 34 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, Stand No. 28, Row C. Here is to be seen an exhibit which aims to prove the practical value of the Kent system of construction. It is claimed that in the erection of the walls no skilled labour is required, and that any builder in England ought to be able to build first-class houses on this system at a cost of not over 8d. a foot cube.

Messrs. Langley, 161 Borough High Street, London, S.E.1, Stand No. 157, Row , are showing Marseilles, Bauvais and Du Nord roofing tiles, for which they are the sole importers and distributors in the United Kingdom.

Messrs. Thos. Lawrence and Sons, brick and tile manufacturers, Bracknell, Berks, Stand 104, Row E. Here are to be seen a numerous range of bricks, tiles, T.L.B. rubbers, semi-Roman tiles, brickettes, kerbs, etc. The design which has been used by the exhibitor to display his well-known products represents a pavilion. The whole display exhibits a fine appreciation for colour blendings which shed their pleasing effect for a considerable distance from the stand.

Messrs. The Leckhampton Quarries Co., Ltd., Sandy Lane, Charlton Kings, near Cheltenham, Glos., are exhibiting on Stand No. 32, Row C, a small pavilion built of Cotswold stone, and roofed with Eyeford slates with Cotswold stone ridging. The floor of the stand is paved with slabs of Indurated Trigonon (an entirely new artificial stone, of which this firm are the sole manufacturers).

Messrs. The Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Wortley, Leeds, and 167 Strand, London, W.C.2. In a central architectural feature on Stand No. 101, Row E, the well-known Burmantofts terracottas are displayed. The construction of this display has been carried out in several types and finishes of terra-cotta, and clearly shows how this material lends itself both constructionally and decoratively to buildings of every class. The plinth of this central feature is in glazed terra-cotta of a dark neutral blue shade, while the piers and arches are in "Texture Marmo," the caps being picked out in gold. This "Texture" finish is a new application of permanent colour to architectural treatment, and furnishes a pleasing method of brightening interior as well as exterior surfaces. The chequered superstructure is crowned by a lettered frieze in golden crimson. A display is made of the Burmantofts "Lefco" terra-cotta fireplaces, which have become so popular for all classes of residences because of their economy, beauty and utility. The sanitary exhibit comprises some examples of "Imperial Porcelain" white glazed fireclay ware in the form of a bath and "New Carlton" lavatory, with patent easy-clean porcelain enamelled iron non-discolouring valves, wastes, etc., suitable alike for public or private use. Together with these is a w.c. suite, the seat of which is fitted with patent "Hygienic" hinges, enabling the seats to be immediately detached for cleansing and disinfection. Glazed bricks, tiles, Claridge's asphalt (of which the company are now the proprietors), are other important exhibits.

It is claimed that "Leeds Fireclay specialities simplify constructional technicalities," and their exhibit is planned with a view to justifying this claim to architects, engineers, contractors and the building trade generally.

The Lewbart Disinfectant is a simple and effective means of disinfecting lavatories automatically and keeping the atmosphere healthy. On Stand No. 11, Row B, Messrs. Lewbart Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 2 and 3 Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.2, are displayed complete outfits of this simple and effective patent. The method of operation is as follows: When the chain is pulled, the water rushing down the pipe moves a lever which releases the desired quantity (from 8-25 drops) of powerful disinfecting fluid, and at the same time a portion of the falling water is led into the mixing chamber, which mixes the fluid and makes a 50-1 solution or any other strength desired. This solution slowly enters the pan only after the flush has taken place. It does not mix with the water remaining in the pan, but floats on the surface, thus forming a protective barrier or film, which ensures at all times that the atmosphere is free of disease and perfectly healthy. No soldering, no severing of flush pipe. A screwdriver fixes it—no other tools necessary.

The Linolite Composition Flooring Co., Felsham Road, Putney, S.W.15, is exhibiting at Stand No. 45, Row C, various types of jointless floors, showing patterns and colours which they manufacture. "Linolite" is laid in a plastic state and forms a single jointless covering over the whole flooring area, making a solid bond with the foundation on which it is laid, whether wood, concrete, brick, tiles, stone, iron or metal. If desired the floor surface can be carried up the wall to any height, forming a jointless cone skirting or dado and eliminating the sharp angle where the floor meets the wall.

Messrs. The London Sand Blast Decorative Glass Works, Ltd., Burdett Road, E.3, are showing on Stand No. 281, Row P, every kind of decoration on glass, embossed mirrors, facias, stallboards and pilasters, illuminated signs, opalite slabs, plate glass, bevelled, polished and drilled suitable for table tops, shelves, etc., direction plates and street name plates, and interior reflector signs. The mirrors in the New Hall, Olympia, were supplied by this exhibitor.

A building constructed entirely with Fletton bricks forms the Stand No. 128, Row F, erected by Messrs. the London Brick Company and Forders, Ltd., Africa House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Architects, engineers and builders are invited to avail themselves of the opportunity of inspecting this well-known building brick, including such celebrated brands as the L.B.C. "Phorpres," "Forder" and "Stars." Information as to tests revealing the exceptional strength and durability of the Fletton brick and the many large contracts for which Flettons have been specified may be had on application to the Stand. This year the London Brick Company & Forders, Ltd., are making a feature of their multi-coloured Ruff bricks. With this brick they claim to have solved the problem of producing a really cheap facing brick. This new brick has been used to face the building which has been erected on the Stand by the London Brick Company & Forders, Ltd., so that architects and builders will have an opportunity of

seeing the effect in actual work. The "Phorpres" multi-coloured Ruff brick, with its pleasing range of colours and unique design, satisfies the most fastidious taste by its artistic merit, while at the same time preserving the robust strength and durability for which the well-known "Phorpres" Flettons are justly famous. Produced by an entirely new machine recently invented for this purpose, the "Phorpres" multi-coloured Ruff brick is made under a registered process, from material selected with the utmost care.

Messrs. The Liner Concrete Machinery Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are showing on Stand No. 283, Row P. The "Liner" concrete stone moulding machinery, Type No. 1, is complete with a patent elevator bogie which will lift a load to 4 feet 6 inches. The moulding box is 6 feet long by 13 inches wide by 10 inches deep. It is claimed that this machine will turn out any size and design of stone.

Messrs. MacAndrews & Forbes, Ltd., Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2, Stand 265, Row O, manufacturers of "Fiberlic," are exhibiting specimens of this wall board, which is manufactured from very tough and strong roots, which after a chemical treatment are subjected to hydraulic pressure. The board is built up in layers with a fire-resisting cement, which adds materially to its strength and value.

John Macquire, 50 Raymouth Road, Bermondsey, S.E.15, is showing on Stand No. 304, Row R, several effective kinds of roof covering, as well as certain weather or vertical tiling and slating.

Messrs. Major & Co., Ltd. (Solignum), Hull and London, Stand 110, Row F, sole manufacturers of Solignum wood preservative, are exhibiting a two-roomed wooden building and fencing, illustrating the uses of their preparation as a preservative as well as a decorative agent for external woodwork, and as a decorative stain for interiors. One of the sections of the stand is a panelled lounge hall in oak, etc., showing the rich fumed effect that can be obtained by using Solignum. The other section illustrates a cottage living room which has been finished to comply with the Government Housing Scheme requirements. This feature is being specially shown so that architects, builders and property owners may have an opportunity of judging between the real product Solignum and the inferior substitutes frequently passed off as Solignum by unscrupulous people. Messrs. Major & Co., Ltd., have found it necessary during the past few months to take several cases of substitution into the Courts.

Messrs. Malkin Tile Works Co., Ltd., Burslem and Stoke-on-Trent, Stand No. 135, Row G. The Malkin Tile Works Co., Ltd., are showing a fine display of their work. They claim to carry out architects' special designs with the utmost care. They have made a special feature and study of Period designs and mosaic tiling. Examples of tiles are displayed in great profusion for all purposes, including tessellated and encaustic floor tiles.

Messrs. Mander Brothers, Ltd., Varnish and Colour Works, Wolverhampton, have constructed a pavilion on their Stand, No. 141, Row G. This pavilion is illustrative of the well known decorative paints, enamels, varnishes, etc., which they make. The outside scheme of decoration is an exceptionally bold and striking one, consisting as it does of columns in black ebony finish, panels in a rich shade of purple (known as Cobalt violet), and stiles in a pretty shade of green. The combination of these colours is most original. The interior is, on the other hand, of a very much more subdued character, and shows panels in a delicate dove grey, with stiles in a very pale green. The panels are relieved by stencil decoration in an Adam design, and the ceiling with relief decorations. The whole of the decorations are carried out in Manders' "Aqualine" water paint, "Vernasca" wall paint, black ebony finish and egg-shell gloss enamel.

Messrs. The Marble Mosaic Co., Ltd., Linmos House, Charles Street, St. James, Bristol, are showing on Stand No. 311, Row R, examples of their mosaics in marble and glass, Terrazzo, glazed and vitreous wall tiling, "Imperator" (registered) cast marble work for plinths, lavatory divisions, etc., and Linolith jointless flooring. Two very striking exhibits on this stand are to be seen in two types of flooring tiles in plain and ornamental patterns. These tiles have not been seen before in this country, though they are largely used in Italy. The exhibitors are showing an extensive range of designs in these new tiles, which are very hard, having been made under hydraulic pressure.

F. McNeill & Co., Ltd. General offices: Patent Felt Works, Bunhill Row, London, E.C.1. Works: Poplar, Stockton-on-Tees, and Kirkintilloch, N.B. Stand No. 184, Row J. The chief point of quality about the "Lion" brand roofing and roof lining felts is the fine and even texture, the solidity, and their

pliability. The felts included in this class are:—Asphaltic roofing felt (25 yards by 32 inches), sarking or slater's felt (25 yards by 32 inches), inodorous felt (25 yards by 32 inches), black and brown sheathing felt (25 yards by 32 inches), "Lionite" (for roof lining) (25 yards by 32 inches), bituminous hair felt (25 yards by 32 inches), dry hair felt sheets (34 inches by 20 inches).

Messrs. F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., are the sole manufacturers of "Lion" roofing, which has been used in many contracts and has met with approval. It is made in various thicknesses, and is suitable for all climates.

The models illustrating the most economical and efficient method of using these roofings are of interest to architects, surveyors, builders, contractors, etc. On the stand one may inspect at close quarters sections and complete model buildings of various kinds. Messrs. McNeill's "Combinite" system of roofing for flat or sloping roofs are of special interest, and the models shown clearly demonstrate a few of its many advantages at a glance.

For cold storage, insulation and thermal insulation generally, McNeill's "Slagbestos"—a very fine non-conducting material. Models are shown which illustrate its fireproof and sound-proof qualities in a very striking and convincing manner. F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., are manufacturers of dampcourses to the Ministry of Health's specifications. McNeill's pure bitumen dampcourses for housing schemes are specified, and largely used throughout the country; other varieties, such as "Leadonite" (lead insertion ditto) and fibrous asphalt are all supplied ready to lay, cut to all usual wall widths. Samples of McNeill's pipe coverings, both of hair felt and canvas, and "Slagbestos" with canvas backing are also on view; and for lining reservoirs, aqueducts, tunnels, swimming baths, miniature lakes, ponds, etc., McNeill's pure bitumen sheeting can be recommended. Contracts for supplying and laying the material complete are carried out by the firm's skilled workmen.

Messrs. Francis Morton, Junior, & Co., 22 Laurence Pountney Lane, Cannon Street, E.C.4, Stand No. 195, Row J, are showing a sample spring floor for dancing, also for racquet, badminton, squash and other similar courts, carried upon an installation of their patent "Valtor" system of steel springs and girders with locking gear for rendering the floor rigid or resilient as required. The specimen floor is 20 feet by 10 feet. The tongued and grooved oak flooring is secretly nailed to timber battens, these battens being spiked to timber joists cut into short lengths and resting upon light steel "Valtor" girders. These "Valtor" girders are also cut into short lengths and are supported over the body of the floor upon patent "Valtor" spring fitments, consisting of steel spiral springs in iron casings. The automatic locking gear for rendering the floor rigid or resilient as required consists of lines of steel bars having iron wedges bolted to them and connected at one end of the floor by a toothed quadrant mechanism. By turning the quadrant in one direction the wedges are drawn in underneath the "Valtor" girders, thus supporting the floor solidly off the wedges. By reversing the motion the wedges are released, and the floor once more rests on the springs. This system of locking gear was originally introduced by them to the Savoy Hotel, London, and has since been adopted for large numbers of floors, both for private and public institutions both at home and abroad.

Messrs. W. T. Nicholson & Clipper Co., Ltd., King Street, Salford, Manchester, Stand No. 192, Row J, are showing their improved "Klincha" lever belt-lacing machine, the "Klincha" vice tool, the 3, 4, and 6 inch "Klincha" mallet tools, and the "Python" file and tool handle, which has a steel coil spring pressed into the centre that is secured in its place by a specially designed ferrule. Patent "Anchor" wall ties, wire wall ties, girder clips, clothes line holders and gate hangers also form part of a very interesting exhibit.

Messrs. William Oliver & Sons, Ltd., 120 Bunhill Row, E.C.1, Stand Nos. 3 and 4, Row A, are exhibiting samples of beautifully figured Cuba and Spanish mahogany, of which they hold a large stock, suitable for veneers and fine panelling work; Austrian wainscot oak in both billet-cut and square-edged wood; genuinely dry English wainscot oak, from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick and upwards, and "cut through" boards and planks. This section should not be missed, as here a sample English oak butt in the round may be seen, which will demonstrate the quality of timber that this firm place on the market. On Stand No. 6, Row B, further examples of timber stocked by Messrs. Wm. Oliver & Sons, Ltd., may be inspected.

Messrs. Paripan, Ltd., Sherwood House, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.1.; Stand No. 245, Row N. This exhibit is designed to show so far as possible the variety and application of Paripan products in reference to the requirements of the architects and the building, decorating and engineering trades.



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Works - - - - BROMLEY-BY-BOW, E.

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CAPE TOWN

MELBOURNE

No. 8 DOOR

WE are now building one of the largest Safe Deposits in the City of London, to hold, when finished, some 5,000 Safes, guarded by a Ratner No. 9 Improved Door, 5½ in. thick, of solid metal, absolutely proof against any known means of attack in the hands of burglars, including the most improved form of Oxy-acetylene Blow Pipe.

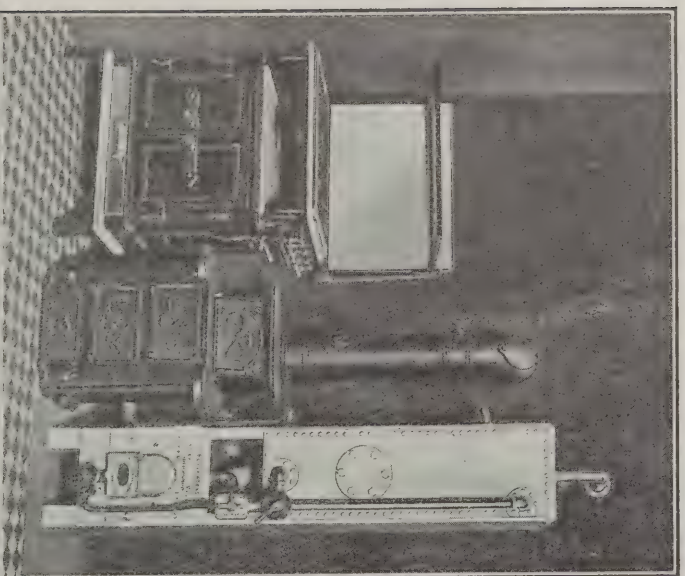
Messrs. W. & C. Pantin, 147, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.4, are showing on Stand No. 321, Row S, a portable belt elevator suitable for loading trucks and lorries with builders' material, sand, gravel, breeze, etc., at a rate of about 30 tons per hour. It has a maximum delivery height of 10 feet and is driven by an electric motor mounted in the base frame. This elevator will work in conjunction with a horizontal troughed belt conveyor. In addition, a few lengths of the "Matthews" gravity roller conveyor, also manufactured by W. & C. Pantin at Woodford, Essex, and suitable for handling bricks, tiles, timber, sacks, boxes, etc. This type of conveyor requires no power but is actuated entirely by the force of gravity and it can be adapted for almost every purpose. The exhibit also includes a "Hanchett" portable combination woodworker which is made up of a universal saw, a planer and a drum sander.

Messrs. Perfect Patent Co., 195 High Street, Brentford, Middlesex, are showing on Stand No. 31, Row C, a number of serviceable tools, including the "Rapid" self-adjusting ratchet wrenches for nuts, the "Limpet" pipe grips, file handles, etc., etc.

Messrs. Perkin & Co., Ltd., Junction Works, Whitehall Road, Leeds, are showing on Stand No. 13, Row B, a very interesting machine under the title of the "Rapid" stair housing attachment for spindle moulders. It is claimed that by the use of this simple and inexpensive attachment a saving of 90 per cent. in time is effected.

Messrs. C. A. Peters, Ltd., Stores Road, Derby, have erected a pavilion on their Stand No. 69, Row D, the whole of which has been treated with their wood preservative, "Carbolineum." Some effective samples of wood graining are also a feature on the stand. Carbolineum "has been tested for a period of over forty years and has proved itself to be a very fine wood preservative and antiseptic. After use the woodwork takes on a rich brown colour, which greatly adds to the decorative value of "Carbolineum." A number of fancy stuccoes for decorative purposes have been prepared for the exhibition, and a display of "Peteroid" coloured waterproof cements also included on the stand.

Thomas Potterton, heating engineer, Ravenswood Road, Balham, S.W.12, Stand No. 46, Row C, This exhibit contains a selection of the standardised types of "Victor" gas boilers, and gives a working example of a system supplying hot water for general domestic use. A small installation for warming purposes, with circulating radiators heated by gas, controlled automatically,



is in operation as an instance of supplementary heating equipment for residence or offices, or as an example of treatment for small conservatories, greenhouses, garages, etc. "Thermostats," for automatic regulation of gas consumption, both water

type and atmospheric type, can be seen in action. The "Victor" combination boiler, using coke or other smokeless fuel, or gas, is specially designed to meet the long-felt want in private houses where a kitchen range is not installed. Standard types of sectional boilers for central heating and applied equipment are included; also water treating plants for the elimination of impurities, etc.

Messrs. The Quicksey Manufacturing Co., 10 Cromwell House, Fulwood Place, High Holborn, W.C.1, Stand No. 179, Row J, are showing examples of their kitchen fittings. The cabinets that are on view do greatly tend to lessen labour, and as such will appeal to all architects interested in domestic architecture because, unless labour-saving devices are introduced, no architect can truthfully to-day be said to take an intensive interest in the welfare of his clients.

Messrs. Ravenhead Sanitary Pipe and Brick Co., Ltd., Upholland, are showing on their Stand No. 136, Row G, both interior and exterior decorations. The interior consists of fire surrounds, etc., in "Rus" and sand-faced bricks and blocks. The exterior is in "Rus" for garden decoration, consisting of sundials, vases, garden ornaments, chairs, seats, paving, etc., all in hand-made and carved hand-work.

The Regent Wallpaper Co., Imperial Works, Brixton, S.W.9, Stand No. 126, Row F, Exhibit original wall hangings. Specialities in fillings and decorative panel effects. A unique collection of hand-worked friezes, borders and panelling sets. Exclusive designs in wide friezes and nursery friezes. The hand-worked series are printed in permanent colours and are fast to light.

Messrs. Rippers, Ltd., Castle Hedingham, Essex, are showing at Stand 90, Row E, the following exhibits :—(a) *High-class Joinery Section* : Examples of oak, mahogany and walnut doors; examples of their patent hospital doors; examples of decorated mantels and mouldings. (b) *Housing Joinery Section* : Standard doors, windows, dressers, cupboards, and entrance gates.

Messrs. Ronuk, Ltd., Portslade, England, Stand No. 114, Row F. This exhibit consists of a handsome oak stand, which has been treated by the company's own improved sanitary methods. The floor, it is interesting to note, is of ordinary deal boards which have been prepared with "Ronuk." Messrs. Ronuk, Ltd., have depots at 16 South Molton Street, W.1, 285 Densgate, Manchester, and at Cape Town; they are contractors for the first preparation and maintenance of all kinds of flooring, panelling, and other interior woodwork.

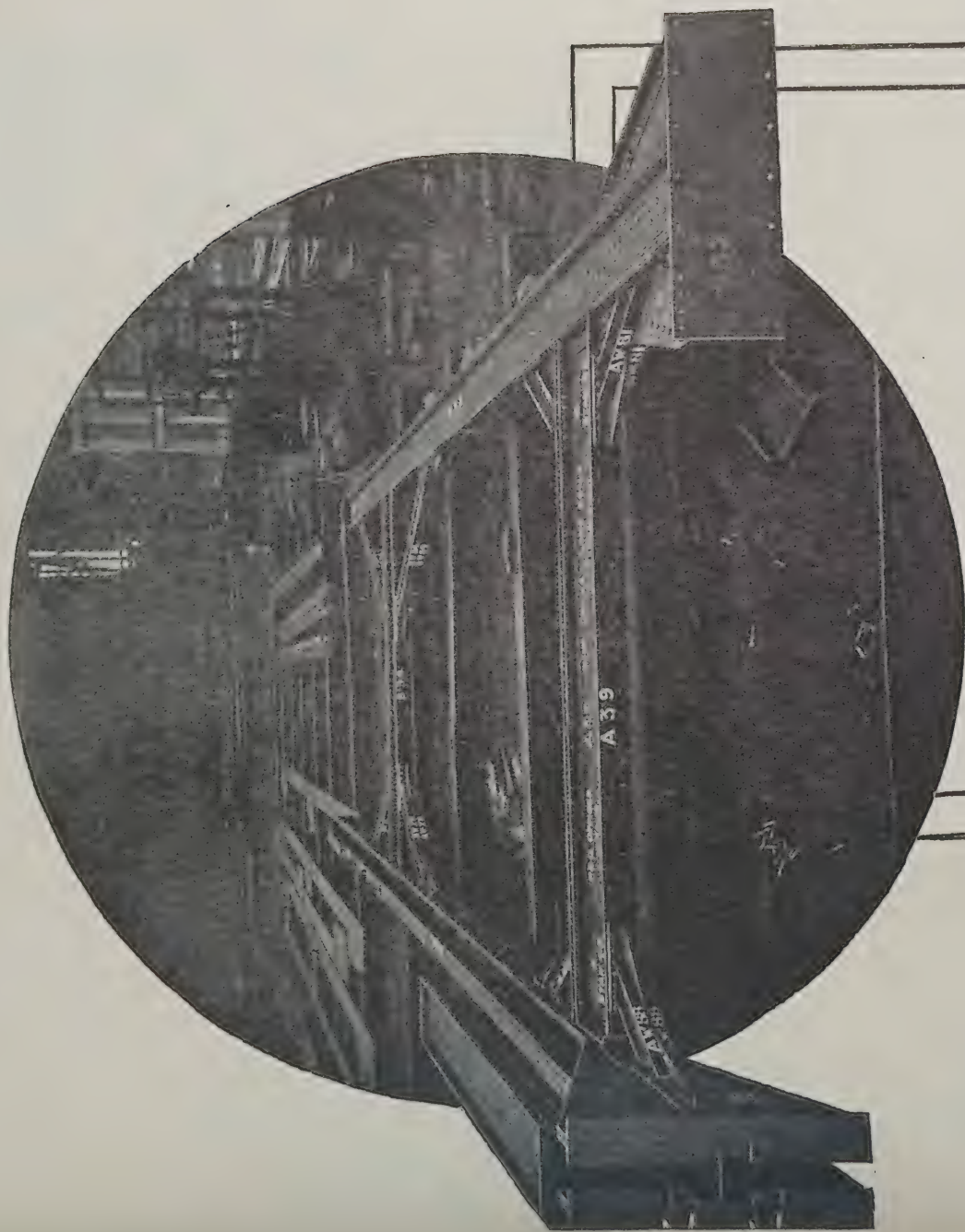
The Rubberoid Co., Ltd., Lincoln House, 296-302 High Holborn, W.C.1, are showing on their Stand No. 185, Row H, "Ruberoïd" roofing dampcourse, "Pluvex" bitumen dampcourse, "Ruberoïd" sarking felt, "Pluvex" roofing felt, "P. & B." insulating papers, "P. & B." preservative paints. "Ruberoïd" roofing has been extensively used during the past thirty years for all kinds of buildings. Examples of the material with a slate finish, which is formed by rolling crushed natural slate into the surface during manufacture, are being shown on the stand. The texture of the surface and the soft colourings seem to specially recommend its use for bungalows and pavilions. Models showing the method of application to roofs of various types are also exhibited, which materially assist in demonstrating the useful qualities of the roofing. "Ruberoïd" dampcourse is purely bituminous, yet unaffected by pressure or temperature. In this short note it is not possible to write at length on the products mentioned above, but all who inspect them personally at the exhibition will be convinced of their high quality.

Messrs. Arthur Sanderson & Sons, Ltd., 52-55, Berners Street, London, W.1, Stand No. 112, Row F, are showing examples of wallpapers in fast-to-light colours, in modern and period English and foreign designs; oak and mahogany panelling; leathers, in a variety of grains and colours; "Tekko," the silk substitute; "Canotex," the canvas with the waterproof backing, etc. In addition to this, Messrs. Sanderson & Sons, Ltd., are displaying prepared specimens of the paints they manufacture, such as "Durolave" washable water paint; enamels, flat, eggshell and glossy; "Chromuro" distemper; "Stoppon," the undercoat; ready-mixed paints, vanishes, the "Bernifor" electric lamp, brushes, and the painter's every requisite. A special display of their "Sanstonia" is also to be seen on the stand.

April 11, 1924

THE ARCHITECT

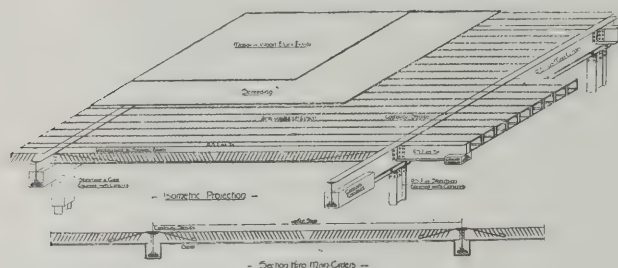
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THIS view, taken in one of the fabricating shops at Middlesbrough, shows part of the steel

Messrs. Scaffolding (Great Britain), Ltd., 43, Lansdowne Road, Stockwell, S.W.8, are exhibiting on Stand No. 93 Row E, examples of their tubular scaffolding, and patent rapid scaffolding tie demonstrations are given daily, showing the advantages attaching to the use of tubular scaffolding and the patent rapid scaffold tie. Tubular scaffolding comprises patent sprocketed steel tubes and a patent universal coupler. We recollect having seen the very effective application of this patent scaffolding in connection with repairs carried out at the Russell Hotel, Russell Square, W.C., and also at many other places, including Bush Building, Aldwych, and Adelaide House, London Bridge. An interesting and unique example of one of the many-sided applications of tubular scaffolding is instanced in its use on Waterloo Bridge for the inspection and repair of the piers, etc.

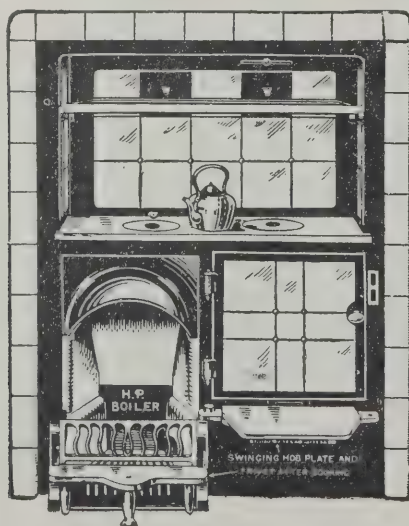
Messrs. Siegwart Fireproof Floor Co., Ltd., Thanet House, 231 Strand, W.C.2, Stand No. 92, Row E, are showing specimens of their fireproof floors, which are constructed with a series of hollow concrete beams, pre-cast at their works, and delivered on the job ready matured. The beams are placed in position, and



the joints between are grouted with cement and sand. This floor can be laid at any speed required, and is useable 48 hours after completion. The floor can be designed to carry any load required on considerable spans, and, owing to its rigidity and sound-resisting qualities, is admirably suited for factory, flat and office buildings. For alteration jobs, the floor is invaluable, especially where a business has to be carried on during alterations.

Messrs. The Silicate Paint Co., J. B. Orr and Co., Ltd., Charlton, London, S.E.7.—The interior of this stand, No. 100, Row E, is divided into three compartments, where are shown in panels selections of the many beautiful "Duresco" colours now being made by the company. In the rear are two specimen rooms, the ceiling and corner of one is done in white Duresco, on the frieze is painted in Duresco a charming floral design, the walls in cream Duresco. The ceiling cornice and frieze of the other room is also done in white Duresco, the walls are Oriental blue Duresco. For the woodwork throughout the company's well-known flat oil paint "Silpaco" is used. The exterior of the stand is treated with mauve grey Duresco, the woodwork and sign-writing, etc., is done in Silpaco. The stand is designed to show the practical utility of the materials manufactured by the company.

Messrs. Samuel Smith & Sons, Ltd., Beehive Foundry, Smethwick. The patent "Foresight" combination range is to be



seen on Stand No. 226, Row L. It is claimed that this range will supply a temperature which will ensure successful cooking, ensure a plentiful supply of hot water at all times, and at the same time reduce the fuel bill by 50 per cent. The range is convertible into an ordinary open grate by means of the simplest device. The flues are easily cleaned and a maximum heat is radiated into the room by means of a special all-firebrick back. Should any parts need replacing, these can be supplied, as everything connected with the range is standardised.

Messrs. Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., 11 Ludgate Circus, E.C.4, Stand No. 222, Row L, are showing a small "Hydresse" boiler which can be connected to the kitchen range chimney and to the hot water pipes of the house. This boiler, it is claimed, will produce many times as much hot water as the kitchen range boiler and will not burn any more coal. In conjunction with a portable "Columbian Cooker" less coal is burnt than in the average kitchen range fire. The "Columbian" portable cooker is also exhibited on the stand. It will be seen that the fires can be kept alight all night and thus assure an early hot water supply in the bathroom irrespective of the domestic servants' early morning activity. Anthracite coal is used in these two patents which reduces the soot and dust to a minimum.

Messrs. Soole & Son, Ltd., builders and decorators, Dunstable Works, Richmond, Surrey, are displaying on Stand No. 197, Row J, the following joinery work: Oak panelling; staircase work; teak and oak window frames, glazed with lead lights with steel casement for opening lights; doors; hospital door; dresser; chimneypieces.

Messrs. Spedol Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Brentford, Middlesex, Stand No. 263, Row O, are making a special display of Ferroarmor anti-corrosive paint, Spemac enamel, Spedol genuine ready-mixed white lead paint, Stempeau distemper, Swift liquid driers, Spedol varnishes. The artistic effect of distemper has been greatly enhanced by the superior quality of the shades now produced and fashion has been tending for some time towards a more extensive use of flat even toned wall decorations. The colour card published by Messrs. Spedol Manufacturing Co., Ltd., contains some very refined tints, which will certainly recommend themselves to the attention of all those interested in interior decorative work.

Messrs. Stephens & Carter, Ltd., Paddington Green, W.2, are exhibiting on Stand No. 242, Row N, a complete range of ladders, steps, trestles, barrows, etc.; in fact, all the plant appertaining to the building trade. A special feature on this stand is a full-sized Spencer's travelling cradle. It is claimed by the inventors of this cradle that it can and will travel on any type of frontage.

Messrs. Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., 147 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, Stand No. 123, Row F. This exhibitor is a specialist for turbine vacuum cleaning installations, heating and ventilating plants, fans, blowers and exhausters of all types, and Sturtevant turbine vacuum cleaning plants, in several sizes, are on view, and engineers who are fully conversant with this subject are in attendance to advise on the installation of this system of cleaning. Sturtevant turbine plants are in use in all kinds of buildings, cleaning carpets and upholstery in the most rapid and efficient manner possible—they are also used very effectively for sweeping bare floors of all types in offices, dance-halls, workshops, factories, mills, etc. Another valuable use to which these plants are put is the brushing down of walls, cornices, decorative plaster work, and such surfaces. Sturtevant No. 8 type turbine cleaning plant (of latest design), driven by a 5 b.h.p. electric motor, direct coupled to the turbo-exhauster and complete with dust separator, can be seen at work. This is stopped and started by an Igranie automatic push-button apparatus, which is very effective when remote control is desired. This plant is connected to a line of fixed pipework, on which is placed a number of hose connecting points. By merely connecting the suction hose to these points it is possible to see the remarkable cleaning effect with the various types of cleaning tools which are exhibited. A range of long sweep tees, specially designed by Sturtevant for vacuum cleaning work, are shown. These fittings add greatly to the efficiency of the Sturtevant installations. Sturtevant No. 10 type turbo-exhauster of latest design is also shown.

Sturtevant No. 5 type portable turbine cleaner, driven by $\frac{1}{2}$ h.p. motor, is shown at work. Another interesting exhibit seen at work is the dust blower. A small portable electric blowing set with flexible hose and nozzle. This has proved very effective



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—Stand 114, Row F.—

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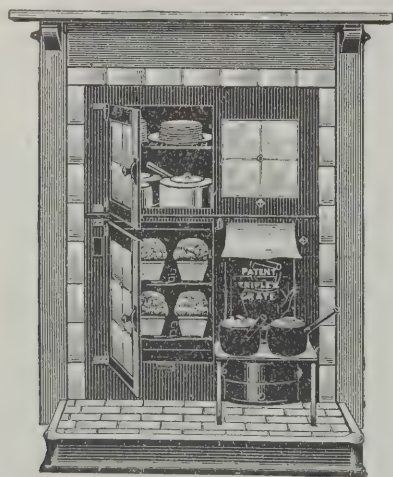
for blowing dust out of electrical equipment. It is an economically priced article, and will very quickly pay for itself by keeping motors free from accumulations of dust.

Messrs. John Tann, Ltd., 117 Newgate Street, E.C.1, are exhibiting on Stand No. 47, Row C, all classes of fire and burglar resisting strong-rooms, strong-room doors and safes, including the most modern types; constructed to resist the oxy-acetylene blowpipe, high explosives, and other appliances of the scientific burglar: "Anchor Reliance" strong-room doors for bullion rooms, plate rooms, deed and book rooms, party wall doors to L.C.C. and Fire Offices Committee's requirements; steel plate closet doors; strong-room shelving, fittings and ventilators, safe deposits and fittings; "Anchor Reliance" fire, burglar and drill resisting bankers' doors, incorporating John Tann's patent anti-explosive and anti-blowpipe devices, complete with steel vestibules, ventilating grilles, etc.; John Tann's "Anchor Reliance" fire and burglar resisting anti-blowpipe bullion vault doors; John Tann's "Anchor Reliance" crane-hinged watertight anti-blowpipe treasury doors, of construction certified against all methods of attack; John Tann's "Anchor Reliance" 12-corner bent steel "Household" and "Commercial" deed and book safes; John Tann's "Anchor Reliance" 12-corner bent steel "Security," "Stronghold" and "List K" fire and thief resisting cash, plate, and jewel safes; John Tann's "Anchor Reliance" 12-corner bent steel "Dreadnought" quality bankers' safes, fitted with patent anti-explosive and anti-blowpipe devices; John Tann's "Anchor Reliance" "Grade 2" anti-blowpipe safes and "Composite" safes, of tested resistance against every known risk; steel chests, cash and deed boxes, and locks for all purposes.

Messrs. Thames Paper Company, Ltd., Fibre Wall Boards Purfleet, Essex, on Stand No. 150, Row G, are showing examples of the "SX" Board and its uses and application in relation to interior linings. The "SX" Board should not be regarded as a cheap substitute for wood panelling, but rather as a new development in interior decorative work. It must be recollected that the "SX" Board has an individual character of its own. Its pleasing canvas grain texture opens up a large field to the artistic mind. Where an unbroken wall surface is desired the sheets should be arranged lengthwise, the horizontal joints being hidden by the dado and picture rails. Priming or sizing is not necessary, the board being thoroughly suitable for paint or distemper. If the walls are inclined to sweat or are at all damp, a coat of oil paint on back and edges of the board before fixing is an excellent precaution.

The "SX" Board is a wood fibre product. Natural wood is reduced to a fibrous form, which is impregnated with a special sizing preparation, after which the fibres are then felted together to form a layer or sheet and passed through steam-heated rollers, which finally dries and thoroughly sterilizes the material.

Messrs. Triplex Foundry, Ltd., Great Bridge, Staffs, Stand No. 10, Row B. Here will be seen the patent "Triplex" grate. This patent aims at replacing the kitchen range except in large establishments. Those who are disposed to convert their kitchens into dining rooms will find in the "Triplex" grate a



very efficient combination. A boiler is connected with the grate, for which it is claimed that two hot baths can be supplied in one hour. The oven is built of strong cast iron plates with a removable bottom. Whenever a fire is burning in the grate it is possible by opening the damper to procure a good cooking oven ready in less than 15 minutes.

Messrs. Turner Brothers Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale, Stand No. 160, Row H. This exhibit has been erected as a practical application of Turners' Trafford tiles (asbestos-cement), manufactured by the firm at their Trafford Park Works, Manchester. The exhibit is in the form of a small steel-framed building.

Turners' Trafford tiles are specially designed for and largely used upon all classes of industrial buildings and structures with large roof areas. They are supplied in one standard size, 4 feet long by 3 feet 8 inches wide, with a weather surface of 3 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 4 inches when fixed to supporting purlins placed at 3 feet 6 inches centres. On these purlins the tiles are safe, and a saving in roof structure is effected.

The Trafford tile is original in design—a distinct departure from the usual type of asbestos-cement corrugated roofing, which is similar in contour to ordinary galvanised corrugated iron sheeting, but produced in a material—i.e., asbestos-cement, the physical properties of which are entirely different. The Trafford tile is designed to obtain the maximum flexural strength from the material employed, with rigidity without increased weight.

After exhaustive tests upon various forms of roofings submitted the engineers and architects selected Turners' Trafford tiles for the Stadium covered stands and the permanent Exhibition buildings at the British Empire Exhibition, Wembley, it being essential for the delicate and priceless exhibits and the comfort of exhibitors and visitors that the roofs should be absolutely weather-tight under all atmospheric conditions, and that the material employed should not conserve or radiate sun heat or external cold; also the nature of the structures demands that the material must be permanent without requiring treatment or any other form of maintenance. Messrs. Turner Brothers Asbestos Co., Ltd., also exhibit their new "Enduro" tile for roofing domestic dwellings, and examples of the "Aegis" brand asbestos cement roofing slates of special designs and building sheets for forming partitions, lining ceilings, etc.

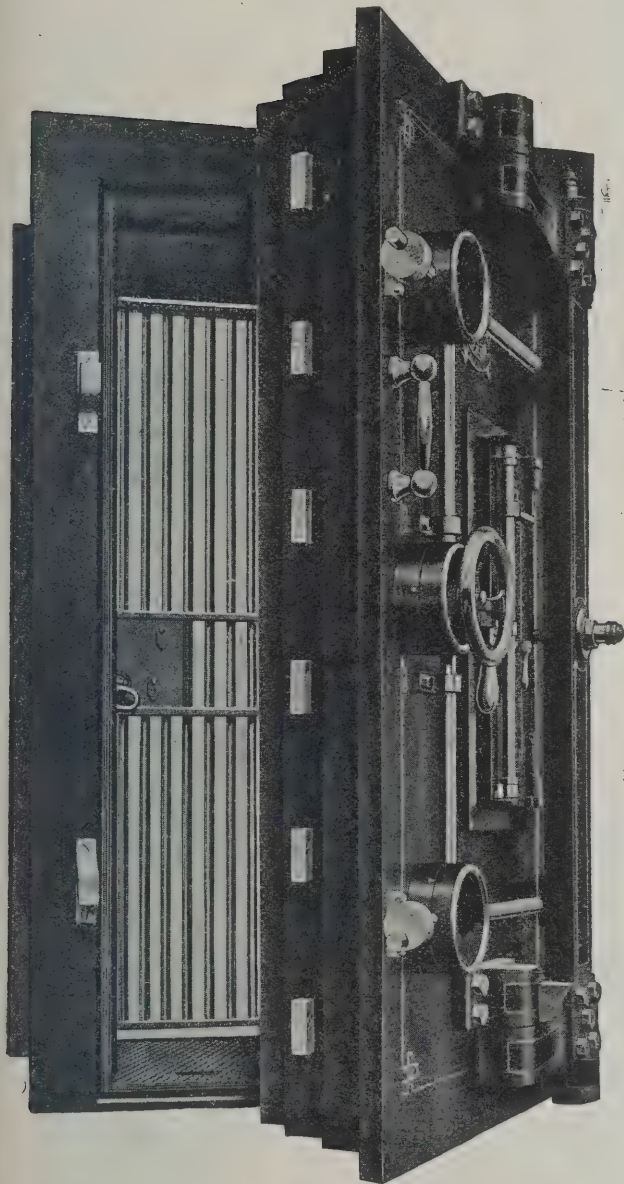
Messrs. Allan Ure & Co., Springbank Ironworks, Keppochhill, Glasgow, are exhibiting the "Ure" back-to-back living room grate and scullery cooker, to be seen on Stand No. 33, Row C.



A demonstration of this system convinces the visitor at once as to its utility, economy and suitability for present-day housing schemes, bungalows, villas, etc. This grate has unique advantages, as it can cook a 14 lb. joint, boil or stew on the hot plate, and heat the hot water service at one and the same time. In most housing schemes no provision is made for heating sculleries. In view of the fact that the housewife is occupied a considerable portion of the day in the scullery, this is a serious omission and one calculated to cause no little discomfort during the winter months. Not only is the housewife enabled to work in a warm

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This Strong-room Door is certified as PROOF against the Oxy-Acetylene Blowpipe. It will be on view, together with many other JOHN TANN SAFES and DOORS, at OLYMPIA during the period of the Building Exhibition.

DURING the Great War there came into universal use an apparatus which had hitherto been confined to the hands of the skilled few. This was the Oxy-Acetylene Blowpipe, which, as a destructive agent, far transcended anything previously available to the burglar. In addition to the official instruction given in the working of this appliance during the war, it was then, and has since been, taken into general use by nearly every engineering shop and shipyard in the country. It is therefore the method of attack most likely to be adopted by the up-to-date burglar in every case where there is no insuperable difficulty against taking the blowpipe and two cylinders of gas into the building.

This apparatus is portable, practically noiseless in action, and is capable of cutting through ordinary or compound steel as easily as a saw will cut through wood.

Protection against this deadly appliance is therefore one of the chief concerns of the security expert, with the result that combinations of materials have been devised which offer resistance for varying periods against this method of attack.

It will therefore greatly interest Architects to learn that the construction employed in John Tann's Grade 2 Anti-Blowpipe Safes and Strong Rooms has been certified by Messrs. Kirkaldy, the great Testing Engineers, to be ABSOLUTELY PROOF AGAINST THE OXY-ACETYLENE BLOWPIPE.

* * *

The Safe and Strong-room Engineer is one of the defenders of society against lawlessness and catastrophe. To render this service better than ever before is an ideal which no consideration of competition or profit should be allowed to subordinate. Such is the belief and the practical policy of John Tann, Ltd.

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On every question of Safe or Strong Room installation, consult

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and comfortable scullery, but she can also utilise the place for hanging up clothes to dry, so that the living room is free from steam and smell of cooking. The back-to-back grate converts the living room into a parlour.

Messrs. Vulcanite, Ltd., Blackfriars House, New Bridge Street, E.C.4, Stand No. 102, Row E. On this stand it is possible to inspect models which show the application of the Vulcanite process to flat roofs, etc. The patent Vulcanite roofing is a permanently waterproof surface for flat roofs (wood or concrete), roof tanks, and for waterproofing basements, unaffected by vibration, settlement, expansion or contraction and change of temperature. On the stand examples of various roofings are displayed, as "Rexilite," "Ark" and "Pyramid" pure bitumen, and "Leatherite" and "Apex" felts for roofing, sarking and lining; "Reliance" lead and bitumen dampcourse, made on a unique principle; also "Rexilite" and "Bituna" pure bitumen dampcourses, in various thicknesses; Vulcanite sanded asphalt roofings and dampcourses; the originators of sanded asphaltes in Great Britain; "Vulcanite" and "Kamfer" carpet felts; "Corkoleum" for damp floors; other "Vulcanite" products for lining, insulating, waterproofing and sarking.

Messrs. Walpamur Co., Ltd., Darwen, Lancs.—The inside of the Stand, No. 133, Row G, is divided into three rooms, each representing a portion of a decorative scheme for a different type of interior. One-half suggests a simple treatment for a cinema theatre, the colour scheme being grey and jade green, with gold decorations. The walls are painted with Walpamur water paint. Woodwork in "Muromatte." The remaining half shows two schemes, one for a Chinese cafe, in orange, black and gold, with decorative panels, carried out in "Muromatte"; the other part, a portion of a lady's boudoir, with a panelled dado, painted with glossy white "Mirabol," pale blue walls, painted "Muromatte," lined out with gold. The exterior is a mauve grey "Duradio," picked out with silver. The columns are painted with white and pale yellow "Mirabol," with black and silver caps and pedestals in black "Duradio." One end represents the exterior of a small town house, painted in white "Amorol," with door and window-boxes in drop black, and varnished with "Hall Door" varnish.

Messrs. Waygood-Otis, Ltd., 54-55 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4, Stand No. 121, Row F, are showing the latest development in high-speed electric lifts. This is a gearless traction lift machine fitted with micro-drive self-levelling apparatus. In this case they use a motor of large size running at very slow speed, and directly connected to a traction driving sheave of large diameter without the necessity for intermediate worm and wheel reduction gearing, thus securing the smoothest possible running and also starting and stopping. The machine is fitted with their patent micro-drive attachment, consisting of auxiliary motor driving through worm and wheel and spur reduction gear, operating at a very slow speed, and connected to the driving shaft of the main machine through the motor, with a special clutch brake action which is designed so that when the main motor and machine is shut off, if the lift car is some inches below or above the level of landing, the auxiliary machine is automatically brought into operation until the car floor is actually level with the landing. This avoids the danger of tripping up on entering or leaving the lift, and also saves a large amount of wear and tear due to repeated starts in attempts to get the car level with the landing when running at high speeds, especially in the case of inexperienced operators. This form of machine can be employed for speeds up to 800 ft. per minute, and, owing to the smoothness in acceleration and deceleration, secures smooth and gradual starting and stopping with any load and at any speed through the controller, which has been specially designed to meet these requirements.

They also show a model of the latest pattern escalator for conveying a large number of passengers in a continuous flow. One special feature of this escalator is that the passengers step on and alight in a direct line, instead of sideways as in the escalators now in service. These escalators are built with a width of 4 feet between hand rails and are capable of carrying 8,000 passengers per hour.

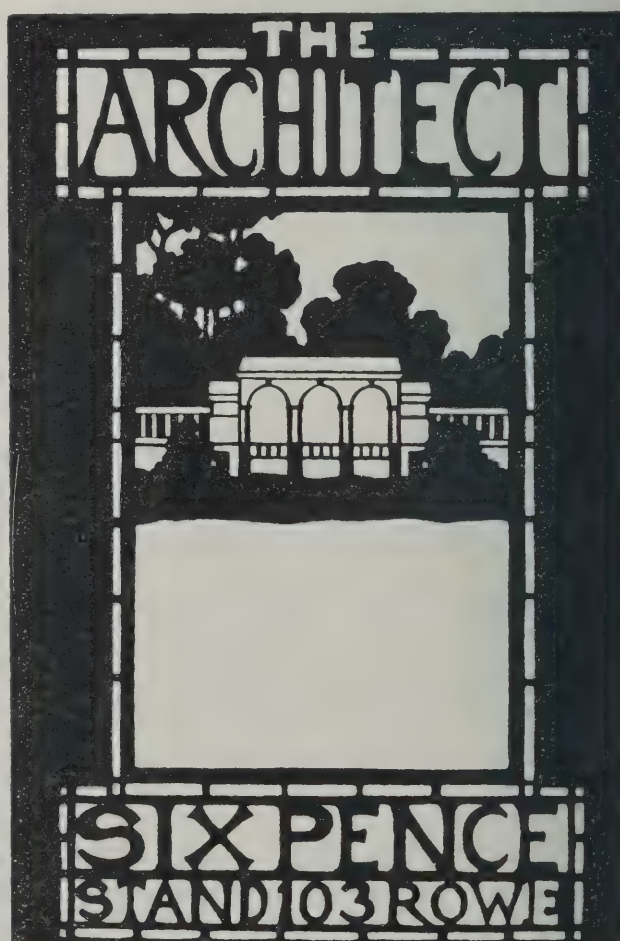
Messrs. Woco Door Company, Dashwood House, E.C.2. On Stand No. 305, Row R, examples of Woco doors will be seen. The Woco doors are manufactured from Columbian pine seasoned by a special process, which ensures their durability and prevents warping, twisting or shrinking, while the three-ply panels used are manufactured of rotary cut veneers from Columbian pine selected logs, prepared with a special damp-proof cement. Exhaustive tests have been made by the factory in preparing a plywood that would withstand the atmospheric changes and dampness of the English climate, and so successful have been the experiments that the factory is now able to guarantee all its "Woco" branded doors. Only No. 1 first

quality doors are now imported, and, considering price, these doors are exceptionally good value, and being made of prime clear timber, without knots or similar defects, they have been proved actually cheaper than other doors which contain knots and defects which necessitate knotting and priming before painting. Woco doors take an ordinary oil stain and wax compound polish readily. Woco doors are stained and wax finished to show the grain design of the panelling. Woco doors are made in many very attractive designs and standard sizes. The company carry a regular stock of some 15,000 doors in London and the same quantity in Liverpool, so that prompt deliveries can be made to meet all demands.

Messrs. James Woodward, Ltd., 66 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, Stand No. 142, Row G. This exhibit comprises a building entirely composed of glazed bricks. In the building are shown enamel bricks in white, ivory and various colours. Salt-glazed bricks in brown, and also what are a speciality of the firm, salt-glazed bricks in green and blue. Examples of glazed brick fireplaces are also shown. "Anchor" brand stoneware pipes and connections, with examples of special joints for water-logged ground and for ensuring true alignment. Glazed stoneware conduits for electric cables. Glazed fireclay sinks, lavatory basins, urinals, and channels. Red and buff chimney tops and windguards. Terra-cotta garden vases.

Messrs. Chas. Wright, Ltd., Edgware, Middlesex, Stand No. 95, Row E. On this stand a number of examples of "Wright" sash chains are on view. It is claimed for the "Wright" chain system that the same can be applied into the present fittings without any structural alteration to the window frames. The "Wright" universal straight-link chain is supplied in blued steel, ordinary or rust-proofed. Many different chains are to be seen, designed to fulfil the needs of all parties under many different circumstances.

The Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds, and 53 New Broad Street, E.C.2, exhibit on Stand No. 293, Row Q, examples of solid drawn (seamless) copper tubes for hot water and domestic engineering work. Copper tubes in light gauges for use in conjunction with patent fittings are to be seen on the stand. The profession is well aware of the advantages of copper tubes for hot water services and heating installations, and should receive some valuable data in this connection from the examples shown.



POSTER FOR THE EXHIBITION. Designed by
HUGH W. MARTIN-KAYE.

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Insoluble Problems.

The great problem of the modern world is to discover a means of living without trouble at a minimum cost, and this desire has produced the outcry for labour-saving devices in building.

Many inventors, among whom may be quoted the inventor of a well-known torpedo, have expended a quite remarkable ingenuity in trying to meet this demand. The inventor we are thinking of patented a handrail which, on touching a spring, helps to drag one up stairs. We remember spending quite a long time admiring the ingenuity of the mechanism, but wondering how a clever man had ever thought it worth while to think of anything so useless, for the game was obviously not worth the candle.

Many labour-saving devices fall into a similar category; many are out of court because they too easily get out of order.

Again, we may say that many labour-saving devices bring us sharply up against cost because of the initial increased expense of some commodity the price of which is enhanced by present industrial conditions. There is little doubt that central heating is an enormous convenience, for in very cold weather, if we depend on open fires, we should, to be thoroughly comfortable, require them in every room, which involves both labour and coal.

Central heating, though convenient and labour-saving, was cheap when coke of good quality could be obtained for 12s. a ton, but is now expensive with a poorer quality of coke at about five times the price.

It may, therefore, be more economical to be uncomfortable in most parts of a house than to be comfortably warm in every part of it, and this has become the real choice which many have open to them.

The inconvenience and discomfort of living in cramped quarters is well known, but here again many are now compelled to cut down accommodation required for comfort in order to make two ends meet. To cut a kitchen down to the size of a large cupboard does not make it either comfortable or convenient, even if that kitchen is fitted with the modern "gadgets" and labour-saving devices.

If our sitting rooms are so small that anyone using them has to exercise care in order not to interfere with someone else, we are rather in the position of a man who has to take something off a shelf in order to make room for something else.

The cost of building, in a word, is introducing more difficulties than the invention of labour-saving devices can make good, and for this reason the discomforts of the lives of many have grown progressively greater, not less.

Those who have to live in the packed boxes which pass as labour-saving houses should, to find reasonable comfort in them, go through a course on board a man-of-war, where living and moving space is necessarily confined to the smallest possible limits.

Some years ago we should have regarded winders in a good staircase as a sign of unskilful planning; to-day they are often employed in the best work

through the enforced lack of space. The public willingly accept two rooms, not because they are really convinced of their æsthetic advantages, but as an economic necessity. We build small coal cellars, knowing it is cheaper and better for working purposes to have sufficient room for several tons at a time, but find that it is too expensive to provide proper room for them.

Gas for use for cooking and heating is an enormous convenience, but in many districts becomes an expensive luxury because of the initial cost of coal and the fact that if not used carefully the gas bill reaches an unpleasant total. Larders, like coal cellars, are frequently made too small for convenient storage, and for the same reason.

The architect is usually up against the problem of subdividing an insufficient space between certain accommodation, and however he may do it the householder is sure to be conscious of discomforts for which any average man with critical faculties will promptly blame his architect.

In former times, when a good deal of washing was very cheaply done by the available service in an ordinary house, it was often the practice to provide special space where it could be done without discomfort, but in an ordinary house the provision of such space has become as exceptional as the provision of a private chapel would be.

The architect's task has thus been made one of exceptional difficulty, and may be defined as providing what judgment knows to be inadequate and concealing this inadequacy with a certain amount of camouflage and an assured manner. Things are seldom judged judicially, and we have known people who occupied uncomfortable and ill-arranged houses who had a conviction that they were really well lodged and accommodated.

The difficulties to which we have referred are the product of economic factors, and the majority of our fellows cannot afford to live comfortably and have not the money to expend on the convenience of adequate space and accommodation which were provided in the past.

No doubt we might live more easily and at a cheaper rate in well-arranged hostels, but though we all love our fellows we most of us prefer a certain amount of isolation to thoroughly appreciate their good points, and modern legislation is actuated by a burning spirit of philanthropy which glows more dimly in the individual soul.

These considerations are suggested to us by the Building Trades Exhibition, for it shows us the efforts which have been made by manufacturers and merchants to meet the wants of a very difficult age.

Unlike other exhibitions, it does not attempt to demonstrate how we can get 9d. for 4d., but it does show us in every section how we can in each branch of the building industry avail ourselves of well thought out devices to make the processes of life easier and more efficient.

It cannot, on the other hand, relieve us of the difficulties occasioned by economic conditions in the state of labour all over the world, and it is these which in the main are the difficulties which seem at present to be unsolvable.

It is this difficulty, coupled with unwise interference,

which has created the housing problem. Sites are available, the demand exists, wages are higher than their pre-war level, but the cost of building in an industry protected by natural conditions and hampered by trade unionism has increased costs to a figure out of proportion with parallel increases of the income of many.

Our Illustrations.

LITTLE RIDGE, WILTS. MESSRS. DETMAR BLOW & F. BILLERY, Architects.

WATCH TOWERS: PART OF PATROL GALLERIES THE CHATEAU DE CHILLON.

NEW HOUSE, "SWALLOWFIELD," ALEXANDRA ROAD, EPSOM. MESSRS. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

Building Exhibition, Olympia, 1924.

Meetings and Conferences.

Thursday, April 17th.—4.0 p.m.—"At Home" to Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Architectural Association, and the Society of Architects.

Friday, April 18.—Good Friday. Exhibition closed.

Saturday, April 19.—Congress of Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants Professional Union. Dinner A.S.A.P.U.

Monday, April 21.—Congress A.S.A.P.U. continued. Visit of the Society of Estate Clerks of Works.

Tuesday, April 22.—11.0 a.m.—International Cement Congress. 1.30 p.m.—Luncheon to Delegates.

Thursday, April 24.—11.30 a.m.—Annual Meeting of the South Eastern Federation of the Building and Engineering Brick Trade. 4.0 p.m.—Reception by the President and Council of the London Master Builders' Association to the Members of the Association and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers. 6.0 p.m.—Lecture, "Westminster Hall," by Herbert A. Cox, Esq.

Saturday, April 26.—Exhibition closes.

Directorship of Research, Building Materials and Construction Research Board.

Dr. R. E. Stradling, M.C., M.Sc., Ph.D., Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., A.M.Am.Soc.C.E., Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Building in the Technical College, Bradford, has been appointed Director of Research of the Building Materials and Construction Research Board of the Government Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, London. The Building Research Board, according to the Report of the Research Department, was formed in 1920 to consider and direct the conduct of research on building materials and methods of construction. For this purpose a Research Station at Acton was established in July, 1921, and since that time this station has been in full operation. Having regard to the immediate importance of the housing question, the efforts of the Board at first were directed to research into building materials and methods of construction suitable for small houses. But the Board has considered that its most useful function lay in fundamental research and with this end in view, the work has fallen naturally into two categories: (a) fundamental research of an almost purely scientific nature, and (b) the attack of practical problems where economic situations enter or are even paramount. Dr. Stradling was appointed as a member of the staff of the Technical College, Bradford, in August, 1922. Since he has entered upon his office in that College he has been responsible for the direction of the whole of the work of the Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Building. He has remodelled almost entirely the full-time and part-time courses in the College, and he has developed an association with the members of the building industry in the Yorkshire area which has been alike useful to the members of the College and to the members of the industry itself.

The Fife Coal Co. are about to erect forty-six single-storey houses at Keltymill Road, Keltymill. The houses are to be erected in pairs.

Garden Sculpture.

BY F. DOYLE JONES, A.R.B.S.



Mr. F. Doyle Jones has recently designed a series of interesting garden figures for carved stone, some of which we illustrate.

Mr. Doyle Jones, in the intervals of larger sculptural work, has been experimenting for some time at his Chelsea studio with a high class cast stone, and has produced some of these figures in this material with all the effect and durability of a fine grit stone of good colour.

The cult of the decorative garden is now wide-spread, and to the sculptor the garden opens up a delightful field for playful ideas and offers an ideal setting for his works.

It is not every one that can afford a carved figure by a sculptor of repute, but cast stone is a medium in which the works of our best sculptors may be brought within the reach of the man of simple means.

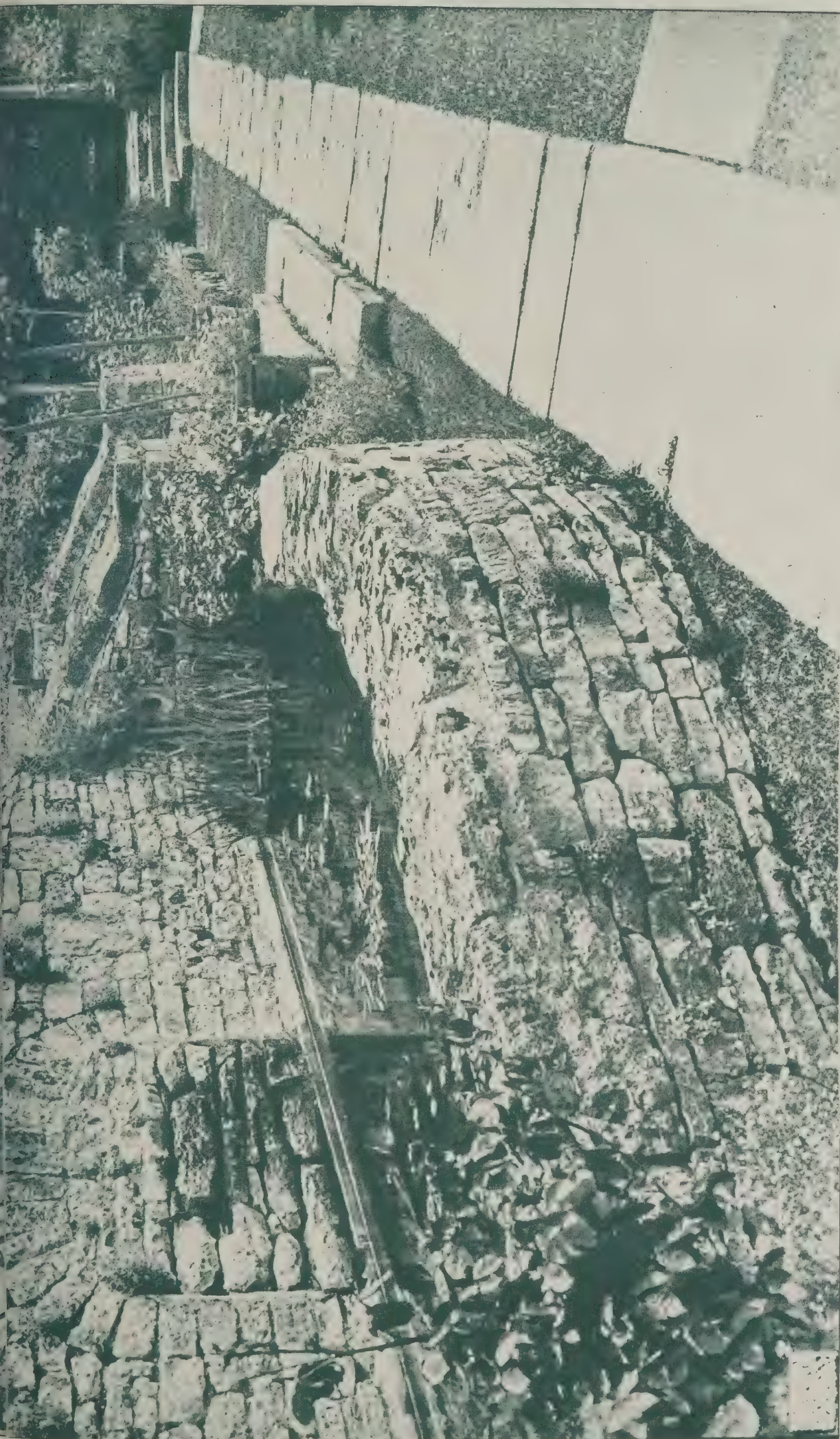


On Tuesday evening last, at a special meeting of the Southend-on-Sea Town Council, it was decided to proceed with the erection of a winter garden at an estimated cost of £135,000. The site is on the cliffs near the bandstand, and the main hall will accommodate upwards of 5,000 people.

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THE ARCHITECT, APRIL 18th, 1924.





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LITTLE RIDGE, WILTS.

MESSRS. DETMAR BLOW AND F. BILLEREY, ARCHITECTS.

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WATCH TOWERS—THE CHATEAU DE CHILLON.
LAKE OF GENEVA.

THE ARCHITECT, APRIL 18th, 1924.



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PART OF PATROL GALLERIES—THE CHATEAU DE CHILLON.
LAKE OF GENEVA.

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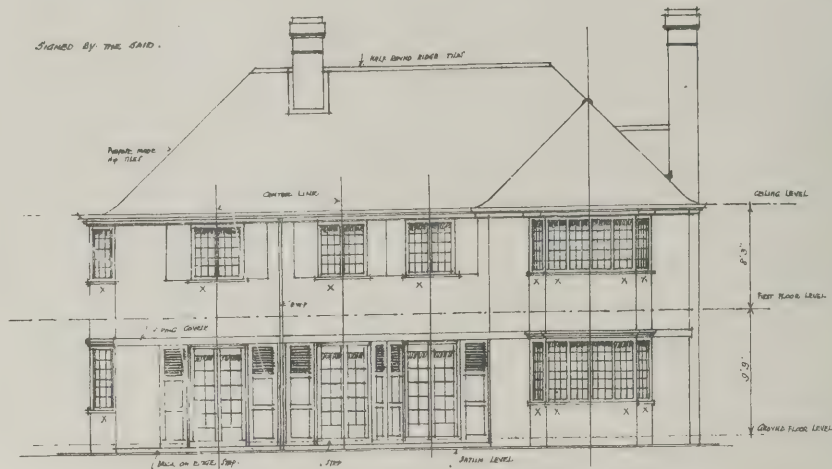
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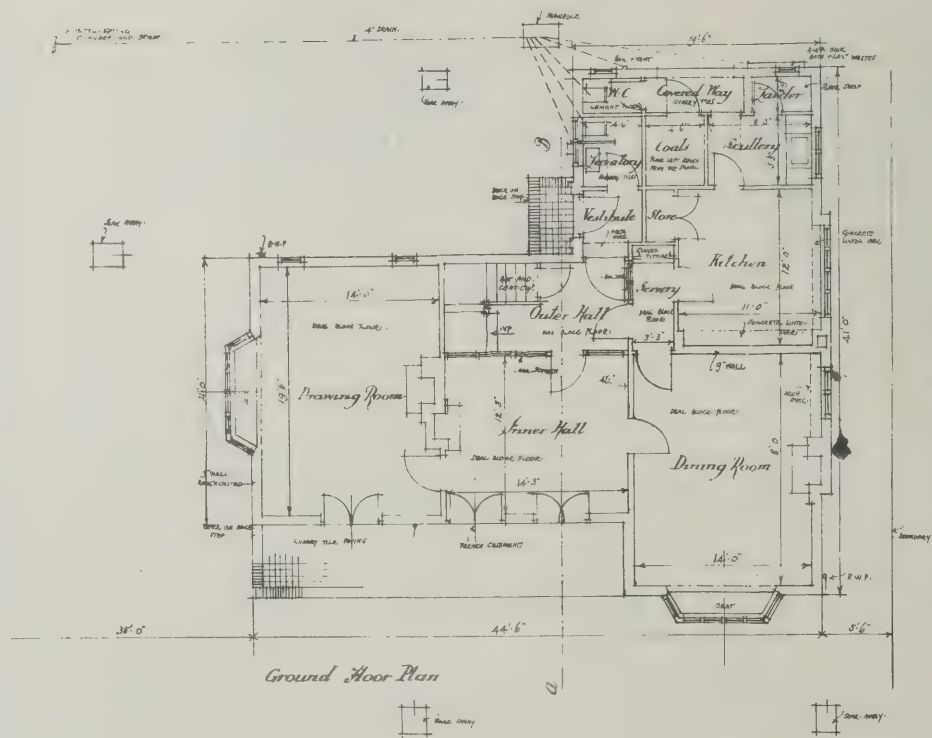
For Mr. Johnson



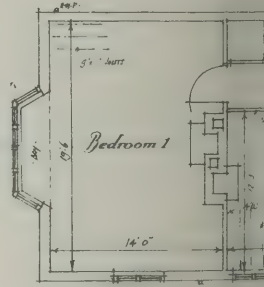
South East Elevation



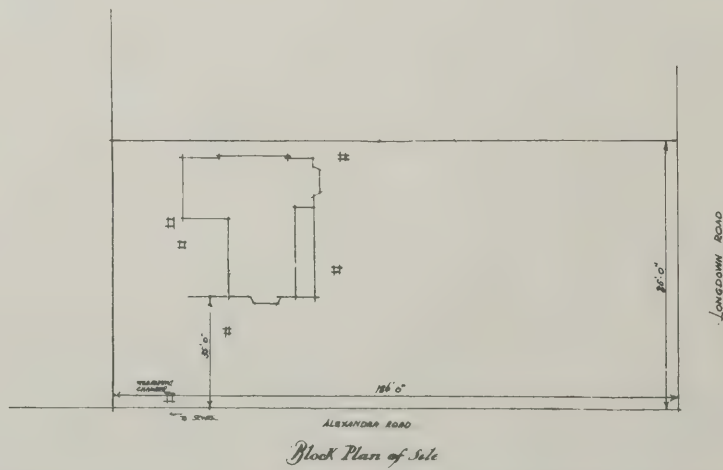
South West Elevation



Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan

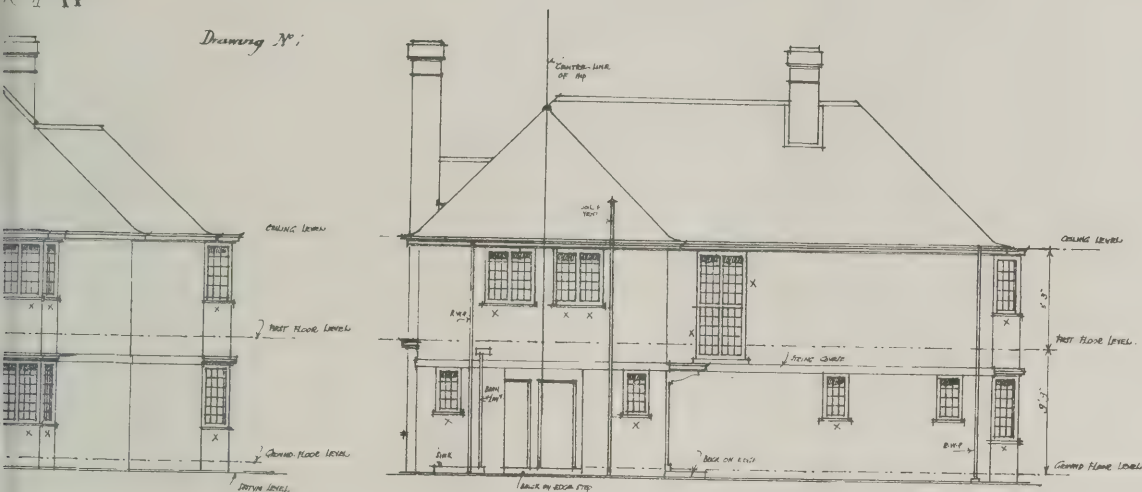


Block Plan of Site

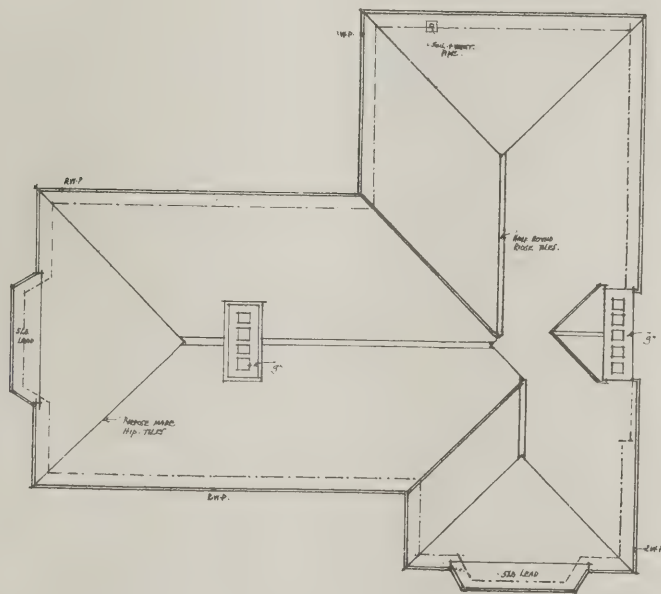
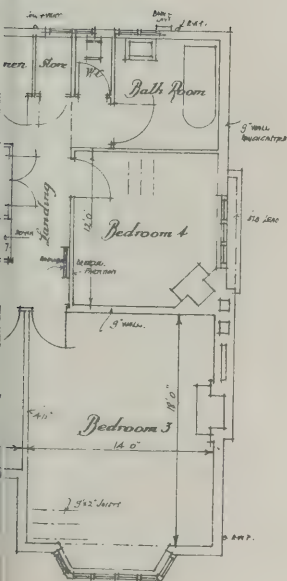


HOUSE I
DRA ROAD I
COMI

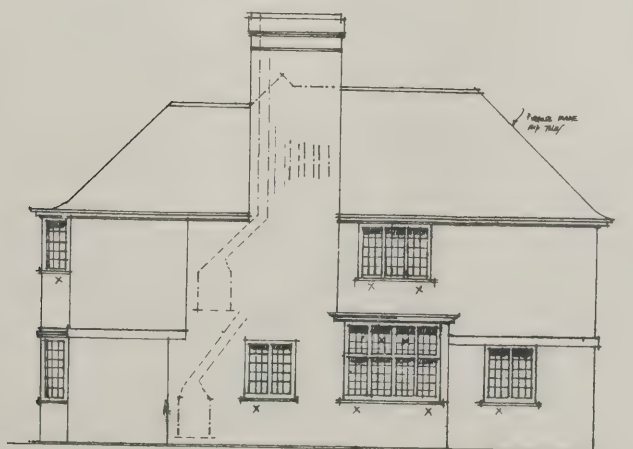
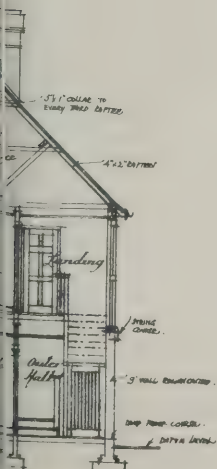
Drawing N°:



North West Elevation



Roof Plan



North East Elevation

Nicholls. Hughes
Arch
A Raymond. BUILDING.
Gray Inn LONDON. W.C1

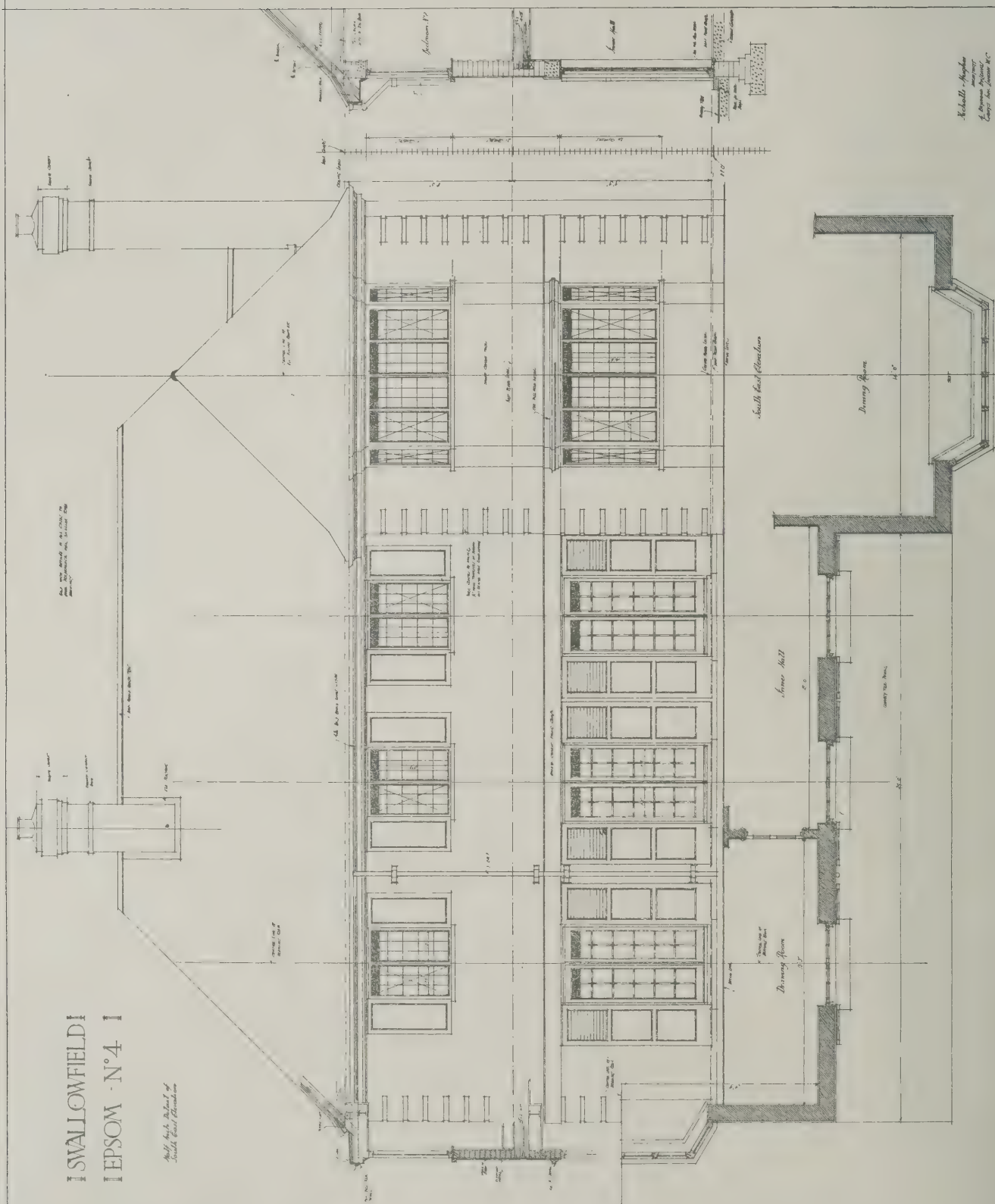
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AD, EPSOM.

ARCHITECTS.

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1 SWALLOWFIELD
IPSWICH - N° 4

South East Elevation of
1 Swallowfield

Roberts, Hughes
Architects
10, Abchurch Lane
London, E.C. 4

THE ARCHITECT, APRIL 18th, 1924.

SWALLOWFIELD I
I EPSOM N°5 I

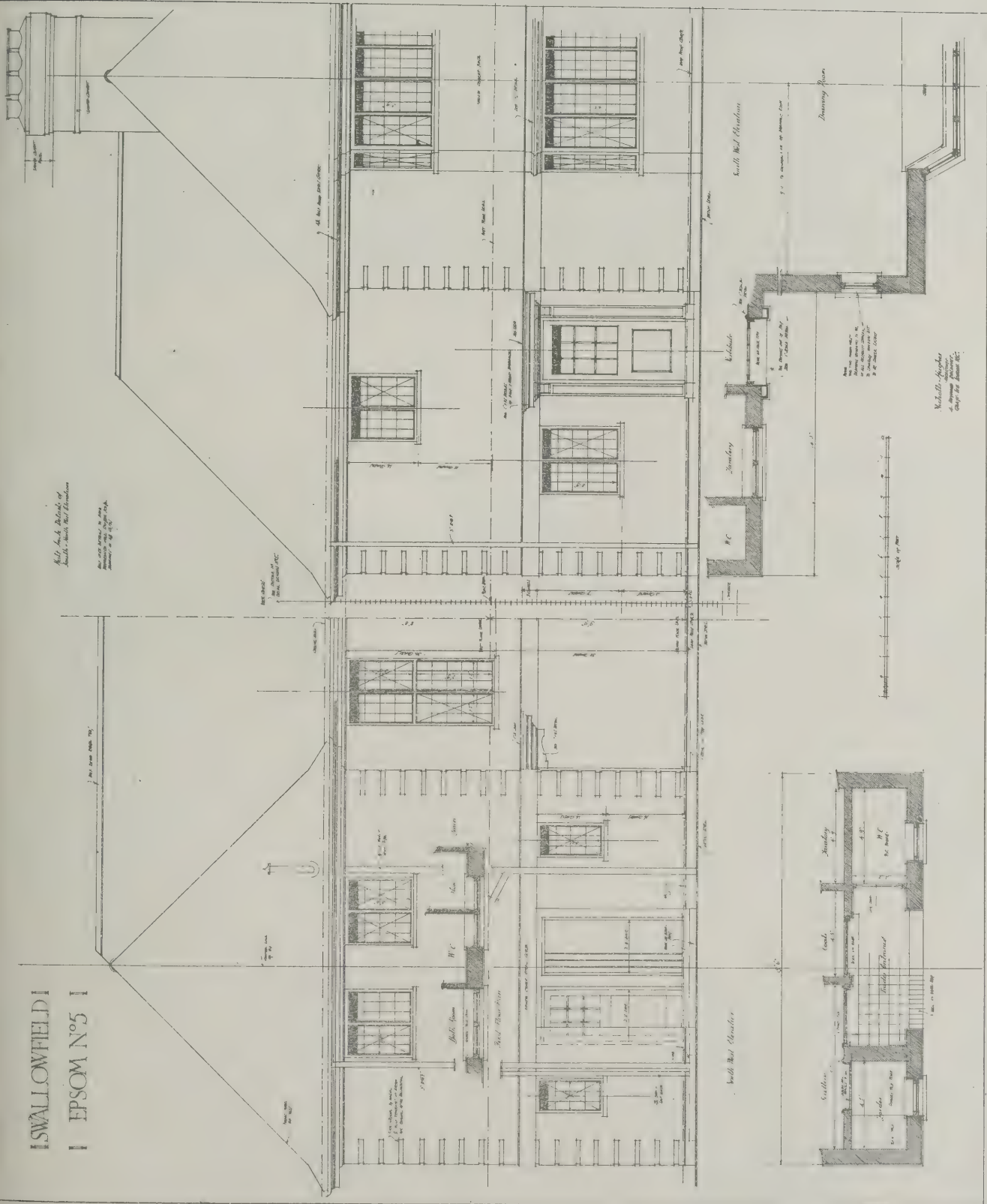


PHOTO LITHO "W" BROWN & CO LTD LONDON E C 3

SWALLOWFIELD, EPSOM.

MESSRS. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, ARCHITECTS.

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HOUSE "E" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

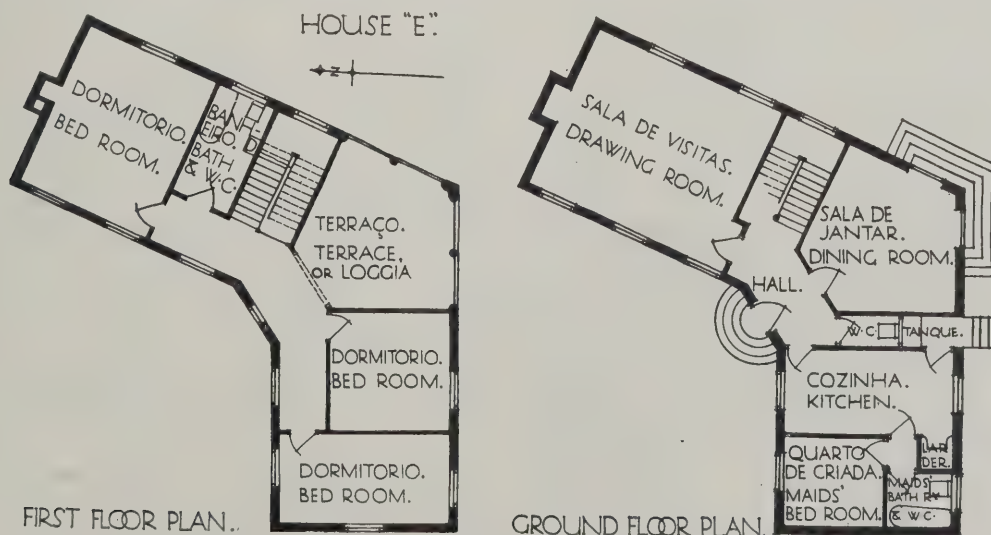
"We Know of No Dealer in Second-hand Statues."

By Mrs. K. Esdaile.

ANSWER TO A CORRESPONDENT IN THE "CHURCH TIMES."

There is a whole world of history in this brief sentence, if we take it as referring, as it clearly must, to statues of sacred subjects. The other sort of statue it is difficult to buy otherwise than second-hand, since modern taste has reverted to the garden statuary of our ancestors, and—except in the case of definite commissions—has little use for the sculptor at large. All the great collections of statuary were made long ago, and though the bulk of them are composed of Græco-Roman works, it would be impossible to find a single one which lacks specimens of seventeenth and eighteenth century sculpture, both busts and statues. But—and it is here that the real interest of the matter for our purpose comes in—it would be almost equally impossible to find a single specimen of sacred sculpture acquired before the middle of the nineteenth century. This may seem an incredible statement, but it can be justified to the hilt, and nothing more eloquent of the effect of the Reformation upon English taste can be imagined. The shops of countries like France and Italy are full of such things, all from churches or the minor châteaux of the country. In England, if they are found at all, they come, like the Glasgow Processional Cross of which we have heard so much, from abroad. Sacred subjects in England disap-

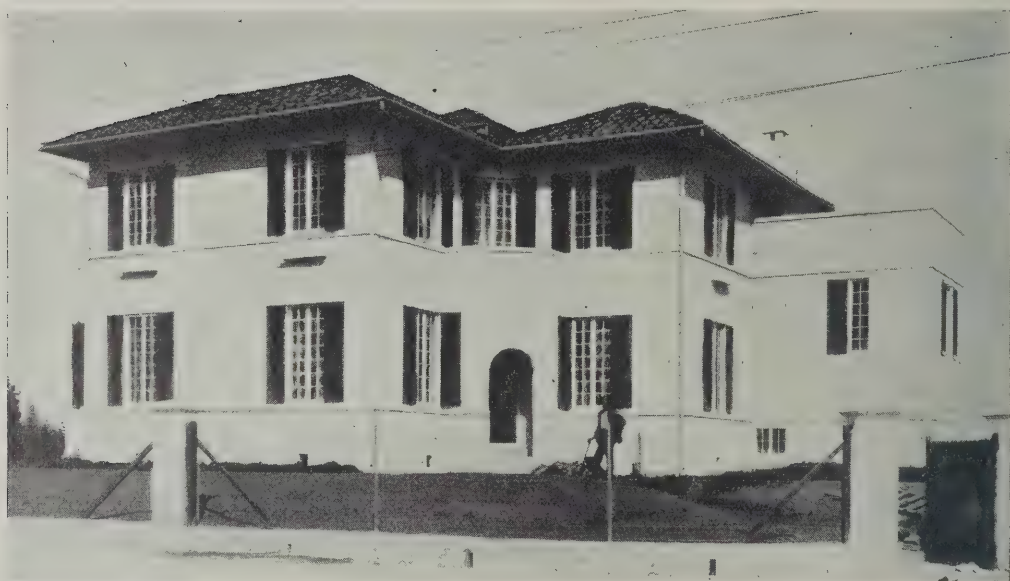
peared for three centuries both from art and sculpture, and there are in consequence "no dealers in second-hand statues" for ecclesiastical purposes to-day. And even in the eighteenth century, the golden age of connoisseurship in this country, there was no demand for sacred art. The writer has been through dozens of sale catalogues and through all the catalogues of the art exhibitions from 1760 to 1800, and, with the exception of a few tinted drawings by Rysbrack and a few early works of Blake, the whole range of sacred subjects is virtually ignored. Now and again a painter will give an altarpiece to his church. Thornhill, West and Zoffany all produced such things, now mostly displaced from their original positions and hung in a bad light, where they are hung at all. Hogarth gave his two worst pictures to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Hayman and Sherwin both produced rather attractive pictures of the Finding of Moses, a subject which enabled them to group a number of charming women round a child. Large Bibles, such as Baskett's folio and Macklin's colossal and once-famous work, for which Reynolds painted his Holy Family in the National Gallery, offered a certain field to painters and engravers; and Raphael's Cartoons were several times engraved, not because the subjects were Biblical but because



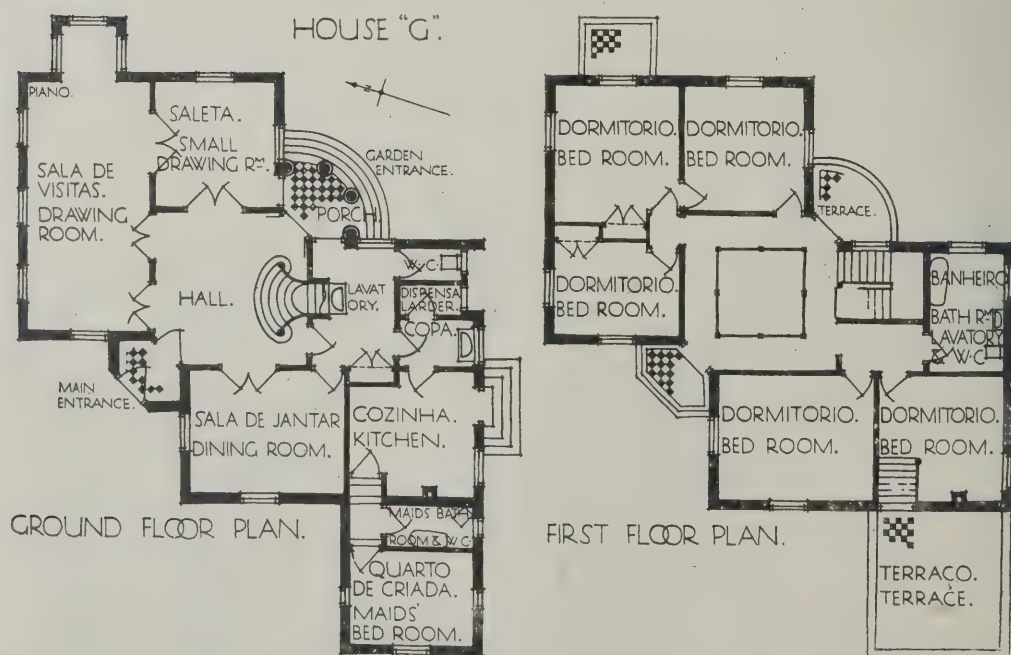
PLANS OF HOUSE "E" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.



HOUSE "G": GARDEN FRONT.

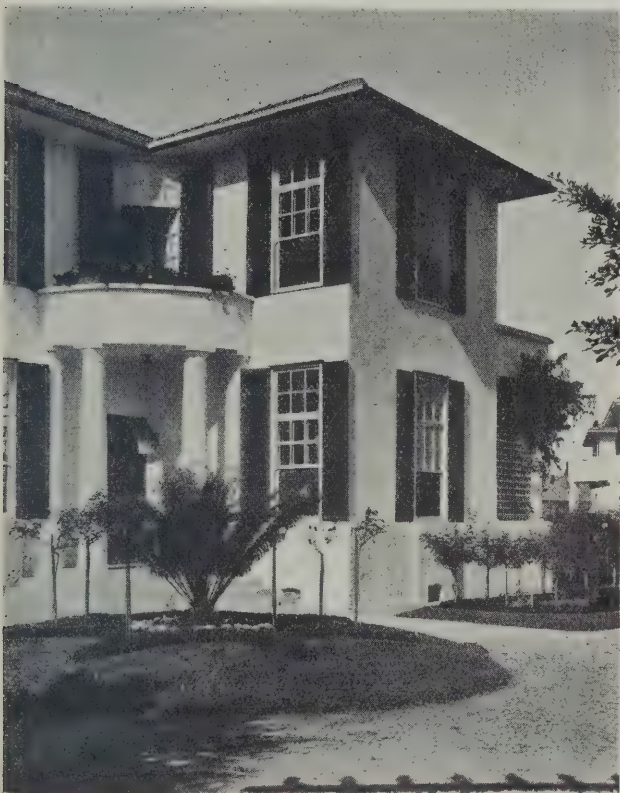


HOUSE "G": FRONT ENTRANCE.





FRONT VIEW OF HOUSE "H" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

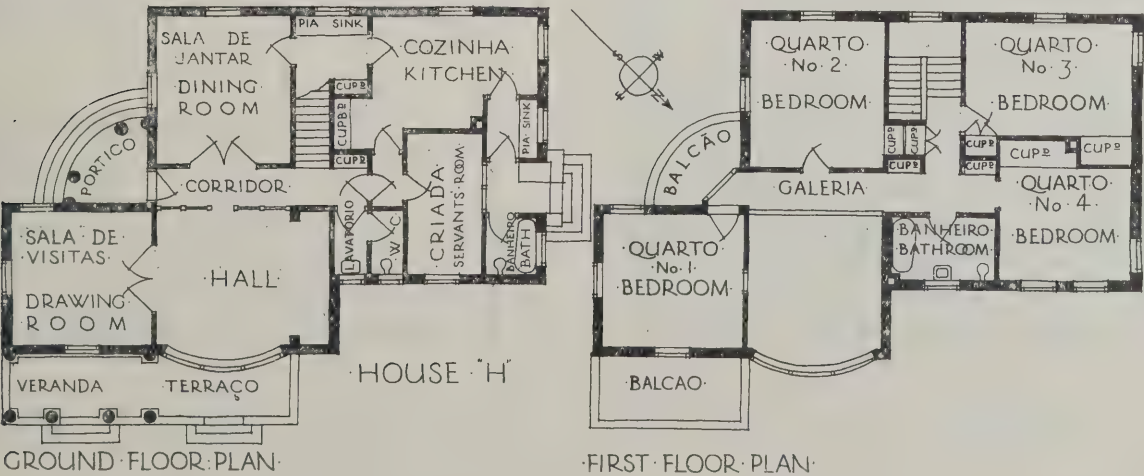


DETAIL OF HOUSE "H."

they were Raphael's; but this is all. The change is the more singular that in pre-Reformation days England was pre-eminently a country devoted to religious art, especially sculpture, though the recent Exhibition of English Primitives at Burlington House has shown us how much has still survived in the field of painting; but the Reformation changed all that, and of all the sculptors who worked in England from 1600 to 1800 it would be hard to find one who ever produced a sacred subject, unless the Good Samaritan, who makes his appearance on monuments about 1790, is counted as an exception.

This is really a very singular and suggestive fact when one comes to think of it, and a stronger testimony to the Godly Thoroughness of the Reformation than any written history. To have been able to stamp out not religious art only but any desire for religious art is a proof of the strength of Puritanism surpassing anything to be found in the textbooks of the sternest Protestant historians. And it is the odder that the cult of the Black Masters, as Hogarth termed them, was never more flourishing than in the eighteenth century, when original religious art was at a standstill in this country, and when Hogarth was devoting his least reputable satiric plates to mocking at the subjects dear to the Old Masters.

One consequence of this break in our religious art, this utter divorce from the traditional subjects of the Christian Faith, was that when the Gothic Revival brought the word reredos into practical politics again, when screens were restored and niches refilled and Sculpture again took Religion for her province, we had nothing to fall back on except the Middle Ages. No model more recent was available, and the religious sculpture of the nineteenth



PLANS OF HOUSE "H" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.



HOUSE "J" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

century was almost inevitably imitative. The Middle Ages had stereotyped the conceptions of the Madonna and Child, of the Saints, of the Godhead, in England at least, where the whole Baroque movement in religious art was non-existent; and to the Middle Ages it was that our artists whole-heartedly returned when religion no longer saw Popery in every statue, and when carved work was seen again in the sanctuaries. Such reactions are common enough, but there is rarely so great a gap to bridge. It is usually the art of our great grandfathers which is desirable, not that of three centuries before; and the unreality inseparable from such a return is still visible in our religious art. The old tradition had been lost, and the loss was long unfelt; and when, in Pliny's words, desire did ultimately create the portraits of those whose faces were forgotten, the Saints and other subjects of this strange resurrection had not moved on with the movement of the English spirit and were alien to the generation among whom they reappeared. We who are used to them can hardly conceive what these "graven images" meant to the stern Evangelical of the 'forties, with three hundred years of history behind him; what a shock such things could be to an age whose knowledge of sculpture as applied to church decoration was confined to the cherubs' heads carved above the Ten Commandments, whose two Tables adorned almost every chancel in the land,

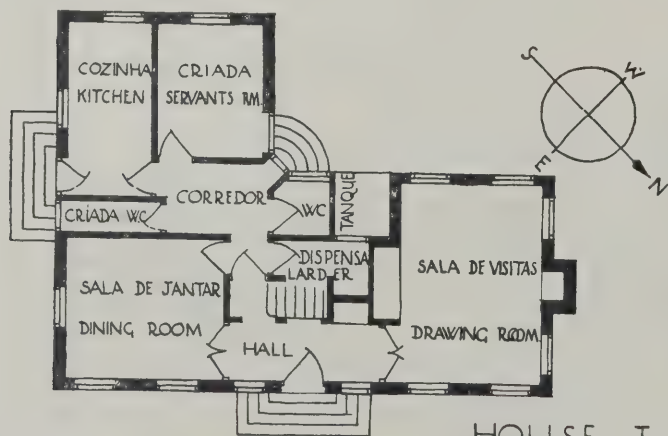
or to the Royal Arms, a legacy of Erastianism which the Oxford Movement regarded as anathema. We who have nearly ninety years of familiarity with sacred subjects carved or painted in our churches are beginning to be steeped in their tradition; but that tradition, itself only second-hand, is hardly yet a living thing; and, though dealers in every other form of art abound, of religious art in England it is still true to say that there are "no dealers in second-hand statues."

The offices of the London Association of Master Decorators will, in future, be at 28 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1. Mr. Alexander Davidson has retired from the Secretaryship and Mr. S. W. Wall has been appointed to fill the vacancy. The new telephone number is 7399 Victoria.

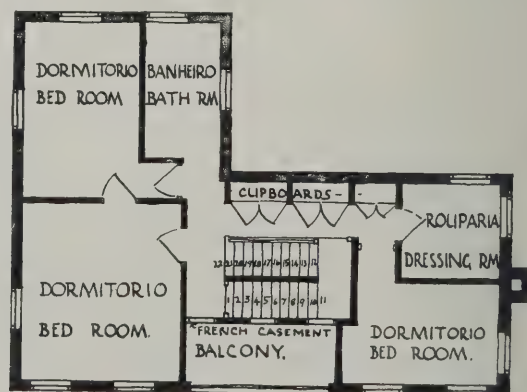
The death took place on April 9, in a nursing home, of Mr. Arthur Edward Northcote, A.R.I.B.A.

Dr. R. E. Stradling, head of the Department of Civil Engineering in the Technical College, Bradford, has been appointed Director of Research of the Building Materials and Construction Research Board of the Government Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Boyle's latest patent "air-pump" ventilator has been applied to Barclays Bank, Mildenhall. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

PLANS OF HOUSE "J" IN BRAZIL. BARRY PARKER, Architect.

By the Shores of the Lake of Geneva.

A Link with Lord Byron.

By H. A. J. LAMB, A.R.I.B.A.



CHATEAU DE CHILLON.

The centenary of the death of Lord Byron, which occurs on April 19, calls especially to mind one of the most attractive and probably one of the best known beauty spots that Switzerland has to offer—the Lake of Geneva, called by the Romans, Lacus Lemanus. Lord Byron, it will be remembered, spent a considerable portion of his life in foreign travel. In fact, public criticism of his private life became so strong that he left England for good and became a factor in revolutionary movements in Italy and Greece. He finally died in a fit at the early age of 36 at Missolonghi.

He spent much time around the district of the Lake of Geneva and was considerably impressed by its beauty, as, indeed, anyone who has been there cannot fail to be awed by the magnificence of its natural setting.

Byron in two poems contrasts the lake in calm and storm.

“Clear placid Lemman! thy contrasted lake,
With the wild world I dwelt in, is a thing
Which warns me, with its stillness, to forsake
Earth’s troubled waters for a purer spring.”

And—

“The sky is changed!—and such a change! Oh night,
And storm, and darkness, ye are wondrous strong.
Yet lovely in your strength, as is the light
Of a dark eye in woman!”

One of the most famous spots on the shores of the lake is, of course, the Château de Chillon, situated on a rock, near the mouth of the Rhône, and about two miles from Montreux. A wonderful picture it makes reflected in the clear blue waters of the lake with a glimpse of the snow-capped Dents du Midi in the background, and the picturesque fishing boats with their peculiar butterfly-wing-shaped sails.

Although so well known, perhaps a brief description of the castle may be of interest.

As far back as the fourth century A.D. a Roman post is thought to have existed here; below the ground a series of curiously entangled entrenchments have been discovered, pointing to the probability that since the earliest times a

garrison was stationed here to guard the road which went by the pass of Chillon into Italy *via* the Grand St. Bernard.

Owing to the gradual growth of the castle various remains prior to the twelfth century are only partially visible to-day.

The first written record, dated 1005, records that the château belonged to the Bishopric of Sion.

The task of enlarging began in 1256 by Pierre II., who became Count of Savoy, and was continued by his successors until the fifteenth century. At this date the fine underground vaults on the west front against the lake were built, also the large halls, the adjoining rooms on the two upper floors, and the two semicircular towers jutting out over the ramparts.

Since the fourteenth century the outline of the castle has remained unchanged. Any alterations since then being made to the interior owing to the changing methods for offence and defence, such as doors, windows, loopholes, etc.

The stone machicolations built in 1376 to replace the rough timber construction are still preserved at the summit of the big rectangular tower at the entrance. The others are of later date.

In 1436 the Duke Amédée VIII. decided to make use of the castle. Considerable improvements were carried out, notably some fine mural decorations, painted ceilings and the building of huge fireplaces by his architect, Aymonet Corniaux, and in 1442 he dwelt there with his court.

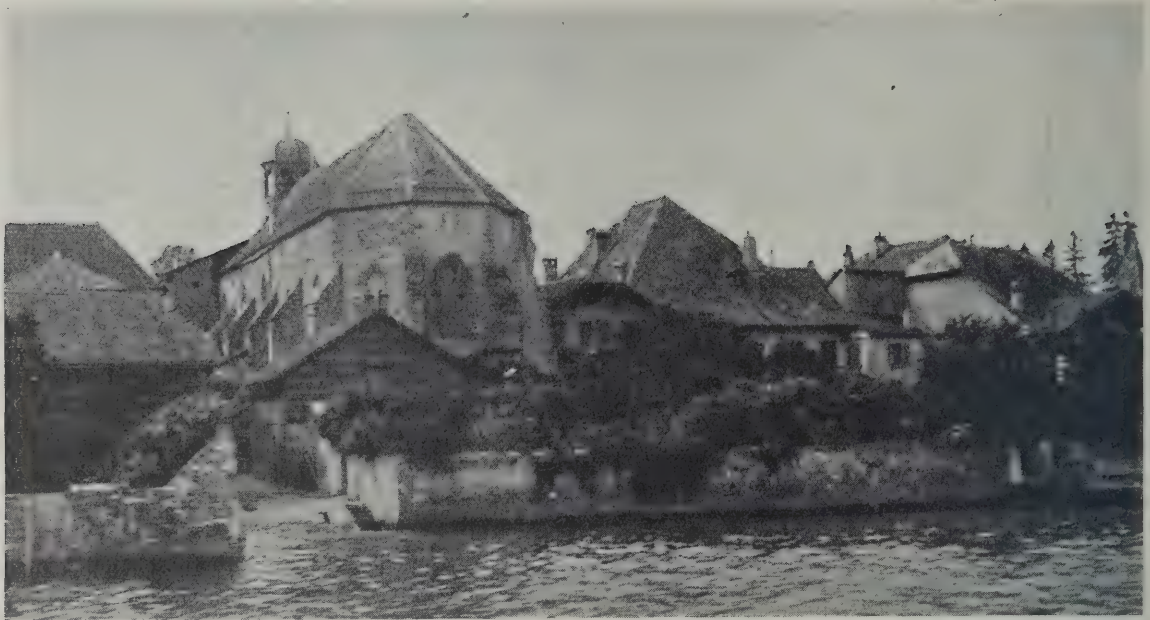
After the conquest of the Vaud country, and the siege and capture of Chillon by the Bernese in 1536, the château became a fortress, arsenal and prison, mainly for sorcerers and heretics. In 1793 it became a hospital, and five years later it was once again filled with soldiers, hostages and prisoners of war.



ST. SAPHORIN.

It was not until 1887 that it came to be regarded as an historic monument, and in that year an association was formed for its restoration and upkeep.

Bonivard’s prison, in the main dungeon, is well-known, and how he as a political prisoner was kept chained to one of the columns during his period of confinement from



VIEW OF COPPET.

1530-1536 is well described in Byron's famous poem, "The Prison of Chillon," although had Byron been able to listen to the tales of suffering and martyrdom of other prisoners it is doubtful if he would have made Bonivard his hero. At the time of his visit in 1816, in company with his friend Hobhouse, the marks in the stone worn by the feet of Bonivard could still be seen round the base of the column to which he was chained.

To-day the walls and piers still bear marks of the writings and drawings of the prisoners. Among the innumerable signatures one can find that of Byron upon the south face of the third pillar from the entrance.

Victor Hugo, after his visit there in 1839, wrote: "The name of Byron carved upon the stone column in big slightly sloping letters throws a strange light in this cell."

The signature of Victor Hugo on the stone is of doubtful origin. That of Shelley on the second pillar from the entrance can also be discerned.

Apart from the dungeons there is much else to see in the fine apartments on the upper floors and the extensive patrol galleries.

Adjoining the Great Hall is the Court of Justice, a fine room with black marble columns, out of which is the Torture Chamber, with a fine thirteenth-century window and walls decorated with courses of red and white stone with black joints. Standing in the middle of the room is a roughly painted post, to which prisoners were tied while hot irons were applied to their feet.

The beautiful little chapel of St. George, built in the thirteenth century, has a finely decorated ceiling and four lancet windows. In 1314 Count Amédée V. had it re-decorated with paintings depicting Biblical scenes and heraldic designs.

Vevey, the Roman town of Vibiscum, has one of the most beautiful situations on the lake. At one time it was a walled city, but since the town has grown to such an extent these have been gradually levelled down, and disappeared altogether in the eighteenth century. Above the town, in the church of St. Martin, parts of which date from the twelfth century, is the burial place of Ludlow the regicide as well as Broughton, who read the death sentence of Charles I. They died here in exile, a price being set on their heads, repeated applications being made to the Canton of Berne for their surrender, which were refused.

Vevey lies in the centre of a grape-growing district. The Romans are believed to have been the first to have planted the vine in this part.

But a short walk from Vevey lies the quaint and picturesque little town of St. Saphorin, on the slope of

a hill among the grape vines, and adjoining the main road from Montreux to Lausanne.

Its history also dates back to the times of the Romans, who used to have a camp there. At one time it was the seat of a noble family—records dating back to 1137 mention the name of a knight named Guy de St. Saphorin. On entering the town from Vevey it is necessary to branch off slightly to the right, since the main road passes immediately below the wall of the town. A sharp incline brings one to a narrow gateway with yet another very narrow pointed archway a short distance along the tiny street.

Passing through this and turning immediately to the right the "Place" is reached. This is very small indeed. On one side of it is the church and, opposite, the "Wave Inn," a quaint old house with a hanging sign of a three-masted ship in full sail. On another side a flight of steps leads into an arcade under a house. Almost the entire space of the "Place" is shaded by two big trees growing in the centre. Many of the houses have balconies and outside staircases, one house bearing the date 1612 over the doorway.

A curiously modern note is struck by a novel method of decoration to the entrance of another house, which possibly gives entrance to a brewery.

Two French peasants have been cleverly painted with red and blue trousers and white smocks, each holds a foaming tankard of beer, their tankards meeting in a "bon santé" over the lintel!

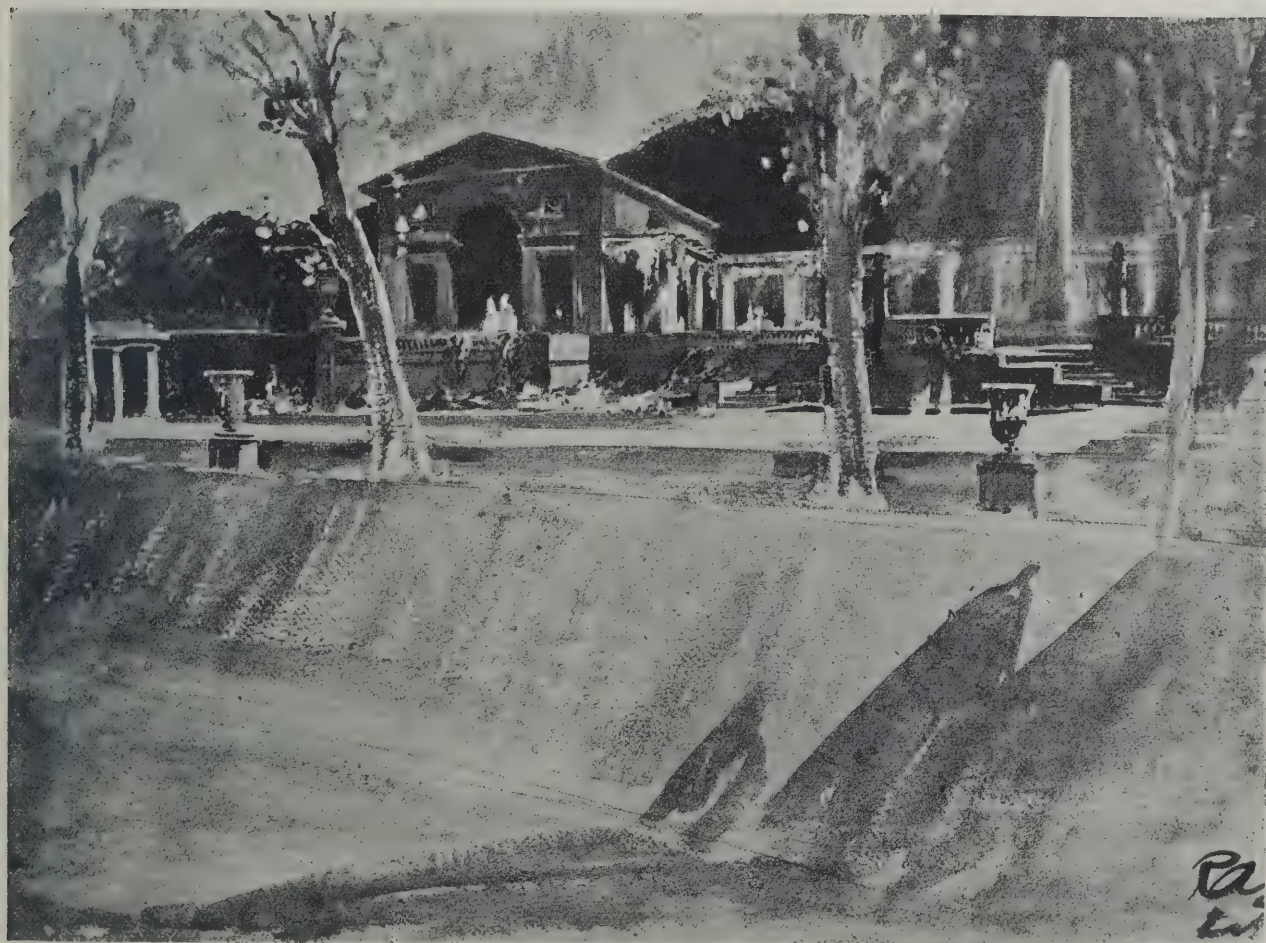
The church, with its square tower and fine Gothic roof, dates from the fifteenth century. Inside is a very fine stained glass window given by Bishop Sebastien de Montfalcon in the year 1530. There is also in the church an inscribed stone dating from the Roman period, in the form of an altar, and also a milestone of the time of the Emperor Claudius.

Coppet, not far from Geneva, is famous for its associations with Madame de Staël, the French writer, who was forced by Napoleon to leave Paris in 1801. She returned some years later, but finally left France for good and settled in Coppet, where she died in 1817. The late Sir Frederick Treves, in his book "The Lake of Geneva," records the fact that here Madame de Staël kept open house, entertaining those of literary distinction. He quotes Byron as saying, "Her society is overwhelming—an avalanche that buries one in glittering nonsense, all snow and sophistry. She talks folios."

The church, which is roughly built and of great age, lies practically on the lake, and was built about 1500. Its main features are a fine east window and some monks' benches, which are grotesquely carved.

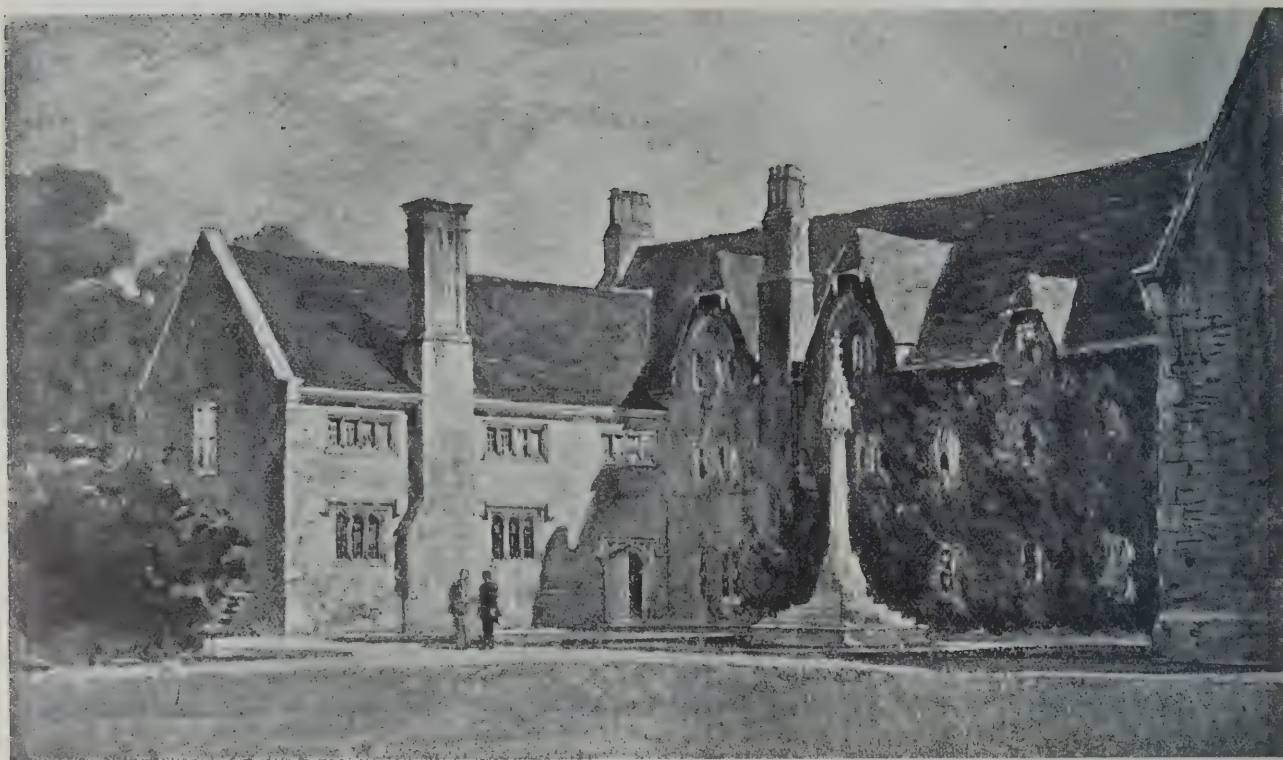


HOUSE IN ARGYLLSHIRE: ENTRANCE FRONT. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

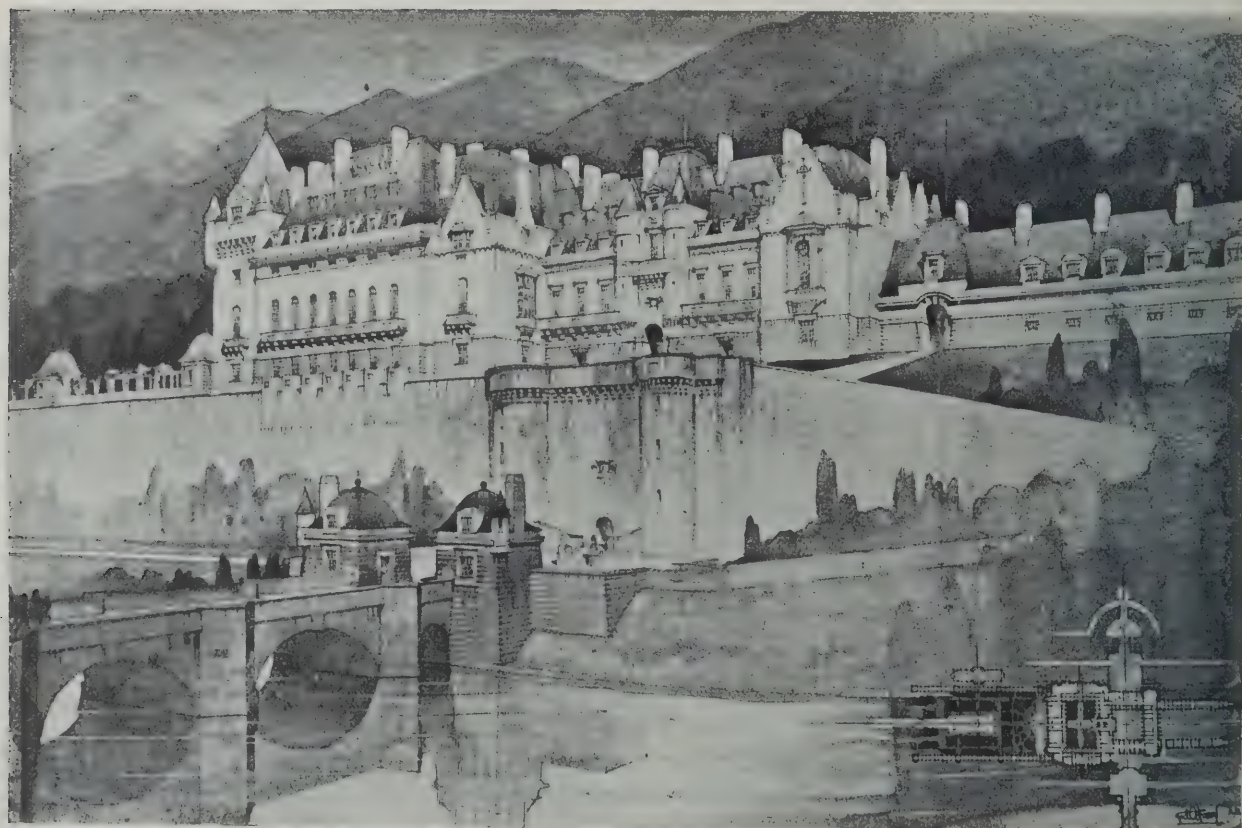


GARDEN, CHERKELEY, LEATHERHEAD. ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMANSHIP EXHIBITION AT THE OLYMPIA.



RECENT ADDITIONS TO CUDDESDON COLLEGE, OXON.
A. H. HART AND L. WATERHOUSE, Architects.



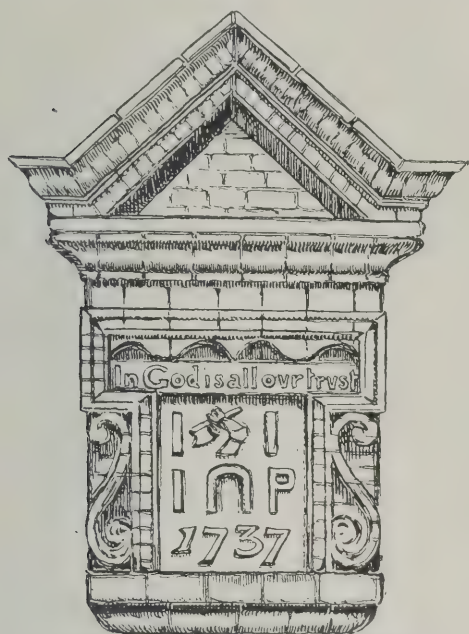
DESIGN FOR A COUNTRY RESIDENCE FOR A ROYAL PERSONAGE.
CYRIL A. FAREY, Architect.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMANSHIP EXHIBITION AT THE OLYMPIA.

London Streets and Their Names.

By Charles G. Harper.

Recently, it appears, a commercial company doing business in Approach Road, on the Victoria Embankment, applied to the London County Council that the name of their road might be altered, as it was declared to be difficult to make those with whom the concern did business comprehend exactly where "Approach Road" is to be found. We have



TABLET ON HOUSE IN COLDBATH FIELDS.

thus a choice of two extremely derogatory suspicions: either that those with whom their concern has relations are wholly impervious to explanations or descriptions; or alternatively that the concern itself has not the wit sufficient properly to indicate its own precise geographical situation, which—as Euclid might put it—is absurd. "Approach Road" is of that small size and of that character that we may readily make a guess at what concern it was which desired the name of the road to be altered. It was the Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada, which has purchased from Lord Astor, for, it is understood, £80,000, the beautiful little estate office built in 1895, for William Waldorf Astor (afterwards first Viscount Astor) from the design of J. L. Pearson, R.A. We might suggest the alternative name of "Suncan Road," if we wanted to please the insurance company; but, at any rate, it would be merely an academic exercise, for the London County Council very properly refused to consider altering the name.

It is, it must be confessed, not a good name. For my own part I do not mind admitting that for many years I have passed by it, or along it, and knew neither what was its name, nor, indeed, that it had any specific name, apart from the Victoria Embankment. It is that semi-circular road which runs round at the back of the Temple Station. Down to it from the Strand come Norfolk, Arundel, and Essex Streets.

There are, apart from this entirely, a great many roads and streets in London whose names might well be changed, to the great gain of clarity and the saving of much time. I do not suppose I am the only person by a good many thousands who has to hesitate awhile when mentioning Queen Victoria Street, to be quite sure he does not mean Victoria Street, Westminster, and not the equally important thoroughfare in the City. As for the King Streets, the Queen Streets, Prince's, Duke, High Streets, and such-like favourite street names, London is spangled plentifully with them yet; although a good many have been renamed.

But they are the old-world names of streets that fasci-

nate me. For example, Cursitor Street, off Chancery Lane. It is not by any means a beautiful street, but the name of it is precious indeed. What is or was a "Cursitor"? Something that swore violently and was dangerous; some sort of person you might not like to meet when unarmed at night in a dark lane? A little Latinity may suggest you that a "Cursitor" was something that ran. As a matter of fact, the Cursitors were Chancery officials. There were twenty-four of them. They prepared and issued the writs in the Court of Chancery. In old legal jargon they were "Clerici de Cursu"; an appellation that does not make them seem more desirable as acquaintances. At any rate, officials who issue writs, whether of Chancery or of any other court, are apt to be regarded with a jaundiced eye. Their works do not bring tidings of comfort and joy. These officials were established in an office here by Sir Nicholas Bacon, Keeper of the Great Seal in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and although the office long has disappeared, the street name based on it survives.

Cursitor Street long was a poverty-stricken purlieu. In it and around it were some of those "sponging houses" that were a feature of London in the old days of imprisonment for debt. They were not prisons but boarding houses for debtors who could not or would not pay; and yet could afford the not inconsiderable expense of being uncomfortably housed in these rather squalid places kept by licensed boarding-house keepers who were responsible, in a way, for their safe detention. Their boarders often were allowed to go daily or nightly about their business; having to return at stated hours. Madame Vestris, the theatrical star of early in the nineteenth century, daughter of Bartolozzi the engraver, early a widow, and afterwards married for long years to Charles Mathews, lived for many years with Mathews in one of these sponging-houses. They duly returned every night after the theatre was closed.

At a period much earlier than their own, Cursitor Street was a place where the poor hack-writers of books dwelt. Dean Swift, in his satirical "Instructions to a Porter to find Mr. Curll's author," makes Curll direct the porter to discover him "At the laundress's at the Hole in the Wall in Cursitor's Alley, up three pairs of stairs." There, he wrote, would be found "the author of *My Church History*. You may also speak to the gentleman who lies by him in the flock-bed, *My Index Maker*."

But it was not Cursitor Street that stood chiefly in those times for the most pitiable, squalid and mean sort of authorship. It was Grub Street which occupied that unenviable pre-eminence and gave a name to a class of writer and of writing which even now may occasionally be heard of.

Grub Street is in the City and runs between Fore Street



GREAT JAMES STREET, BLOOMSBURY.

and Chiswell Street. The name of it was changed in 1830, following upon the petition of the owner and tenants of houses there, who too long had endured scorns and contumelies on account of it; and the name of "Milton Street," which it still bears, replaced the detested old one. Many a time it has been stated that this was the name of

a builder there. That may have been so, but the records of Cripplegate Ward inform us that "the great name of Milton the poet, who lies in the church of St. Giles, Cripplegate," hard by, was suggested by the inhabitants, and was accordingly adopted.

What was the original significance of the name of "Grobbe Street," as it is first referred to, in 1307, we may not guess; but it is mentioned first in the derogatory sense of being the typical lane of starveling authors by Andrew Marvell, and after his time Swift and Pope and every other contemptuous and ungenerous author who had escaped from Grub Street or was never in it—in the metaphorical sense—pilloried the poor devils who passed their lives actually there, or in the Grub Street condition; or maliciously affected to place there the literary brethren for whose books, or personalities, they had no liking.

The duplication of street names in London is saved from utter confusion only by the respective letterings and numberings of the postal districts and by the names of the various geographical localities. It creates, for example, no confusion that there is a High Street in Kensington, and also High Streets in Notting Hill, Marylebone, Bloomsbury, and many another London region. But in London's 20,000 named thoroughfares it is a little inconvenient that there are one hundred and twelve Church Streets, Roads and Terraces, "Church" is, indeed, the most numerous of all street names. Next to it comes "Park." There are one hundred and five Park Streets, Roads, Terraces and Crescents; while the seventy-seven Groves of various descriptions must occasion the Post Office some trouble.

The plague of "Victorias," due to the excess of fervid loyalty in the middle of the nineteenth century, has given us fifty-six thoroughfares so named. There are, too, some thirty-seven "King" thoroughfares of different kinds, and an equal number of "Queen"; and thirty-four Clarence Streets, or thoroughfares of some kind.

Milton, among illustrious literary names, comes easily first, with twenty-six examples; but we must not suppose that all of these are named after the poet; "Tennyson" occurs thirteen times, and "Shakespeare" twelve; "Thackeray" four times, and "Browning" three. Dickens is named only twice.

The many-times duplicated street names of our own age are all of that type you would not be ashamed to own as an address; but it was far otherwise in the days of our ancestors. In London there were a large number of Dirty Lanes; seventeen "Frying Pan Alleys"; and numerous others of that class. There was even a "Stinking Lane," in sorry fact as well as in approbrious title. To-day it is "King Edward Street" and its social and sanitary conditions are beyond reproach. It is that thoroughfare which runs out of Newgate Street towards Smithfield. The "King Edward" referred to is the boy-king, Edward the Sixth, founder of Christ's Hospital, or "the Bluecoat School," which stood hard by.

"Stinking Lane" took its very suitable name from this having been a place where butchers and slaughter-houses chiefly were established, creating offensive odours in times when street-cleansing was not a regular habit. Even our forefathers, however, did not relish the title of "Stinking Lane," and they changed it firstly to "Blowbladder Street"—an improvement, but not poetic or stately, or even pleasant—and then to "Butcher Hall Street."

Strange names are yet to be found, in spite of the tendency of to-day to consider them not respectable and to replace them with high-sounding ones. "Haunch of Venison Yard" is one of these, in Brook Street, turning out of Bond Street. But only considering the name, it is not strange at all, for it is seen to be merely an allusion to an old public-house of that sign.

"XX Place, Globe Road, E.1," is a quaint address off the Mile End Road.

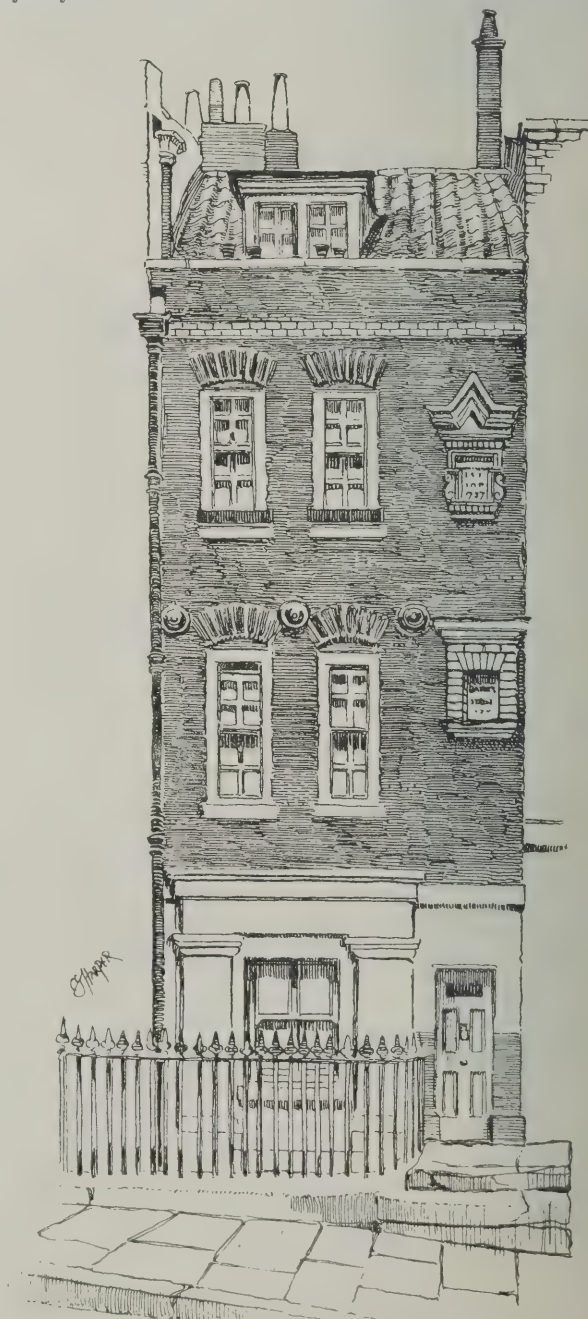
How mawkish the names of many among renamed thoroughfares! It was thought to obscure the old ill-repute of Ratcliffe Highway when, many years ago, it was renamed "St. George's Road"; but there was no need for that, because the conditions that had made Ratcliffe Highway what it was had themselves gone, and

by the mere effluxion of them the old title would have grown respectable, and the crimps and the drunken sailors and the harpies who battered on them would have been forgotten.

Before Shaftesbury Avenue was constructed, about 1884, there was yet something left of Monmouth Street, St. Giles's, but it is gone now. Monmouth Street was once the Valhalla of old boots, for it was very largely inhabited by the resurrectionists and revivers of cast-off footgear. These ingenious persons possessed the art and mystery of so treating apparently hopeless boots and shoes that the owner, who had got rid of the disgraceful things in sheer disgust had been known, unwittingly, to repurchase the identical articles, as restored.

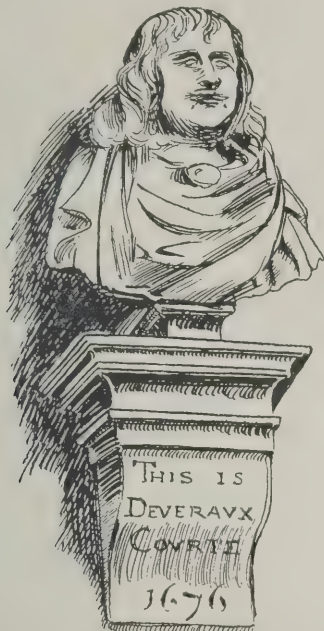
But if Monmouth Street were the ultimate bourne of old boots, equally was Petticoat Lane, by Aldgate, the last haven of discarded clothes. It is something like that even yet, but no longer can it be said of "Middlesex Street"—as long ago it was re-named—that if you had a silk handkerchief stolen at one end of the street you would most likely find it exposed for sale, among others, on one of the stalls at the further end of the same thoroughfare.

The pretty old custom of setting forth the names of streets on tablets more or less decorative belonged to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Of that era we have still a good many street tablets left *in situ*, although the majority either have now been removed and are to be found



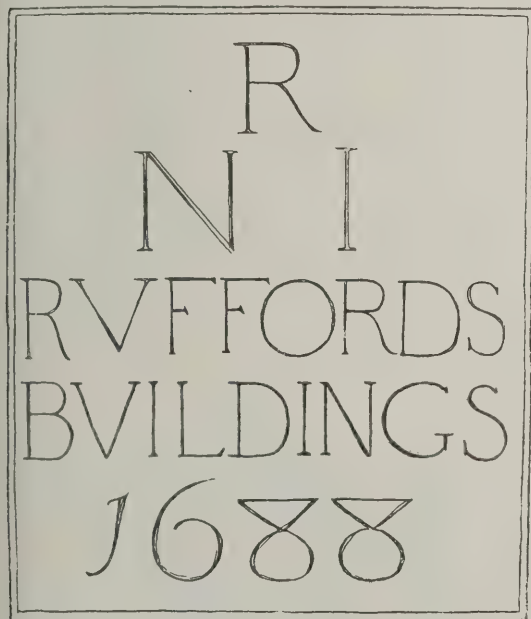
OLD HOUSE IN COLDBATH FIELDS.

in museums, or they remain on the walls at street corners where the streets themselves often have been renamed. An exceptional distinguishing mark is that yet to be seen in a little alley off the Strand, leading into the Temple. It is a stone bracket bearing a portrait bust of Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, and it bears the legend "This is Devereux Courte 1676." The Earl of Essex, as portrayed in this bust, looks more of a commonplace fellow than history would lead us to suppose him to have been.



DEVEREUX COURT, FLEET STREET.

The street facing what used to be Clerkenwell Prison was christened by some mad 'wag or sour person of sardonic humour, "Mount Pleasant." It has been altogether changed since Rosebery Avenue came that way. "Mount Pleasant" was in its day a street of some distinction, with some old houses with brick tablets. These tablets perpetuate the old-time names of the two streets into which Mount Pleasant once was divided—Baynes Street and Dorrington Street. Indeed, one of



these houses. No. 41, had two tablets on its frontage, one bearing the arms and motto of the Tylers' Company; the other the name of "Baynes Street 1737." The Tylers' device suggested that the property belonged originally to that company. The builder of Dorrington Street (the tablet on the house mis-spells the name "Dor-

rinton," without the "g") was one Thomas Dorrington, citizen and bricklayer, of London. At No. 4, Baynes Street, called sometimes "Baynes Row," lived Grimaldi, the clown, about 1810. "Coldbath Fields Prison," as Clerkenwell Prison officially was styled, contributed greatly at one time to the "Apple Tree Tavern," hard by.

The tablet "Rufford's Buildings 1688," seen on a house in Upper Street, Islington, affords in the beauty of its lettering an example to-day; as also does the boldly inscribed tablet on a house in what is now Furnival Street, Holborn, proclaiming "Castle Street 1785."

By that time the designer and executant of street tablets had long journeyed beyond the unnecessary statement that once was, it seems, inevitable—the preliminary declaration "This is——"

"This is Oxford Streete 1725," and "This is Chappell Streete 1656," as stone tablets once informed us, in

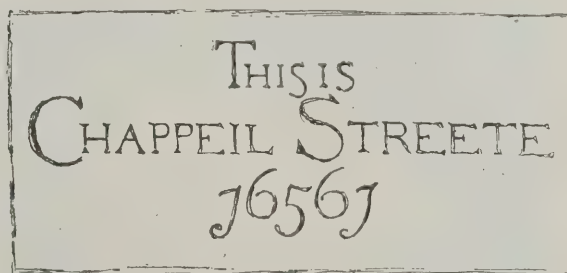


FORMERLY AT NO. 1 OXFORD STREET.

Oxford Street and in Great Chapel Street, Westminster. They had progressed beyond that late in the eighteenth century, if not in some cases earlier; even as, after the middle of the seventeenth century the makers of these tablets had pretty generally ceased to cut them solely as pictorial representations for the benefit of those persons who could not read.

The tablet "Little Marlborough Street 1703," is not only beautifully spaced, but is also in advance of its time, as it spells "street" without a final "e"; and the simple but pleasing little tablet at Half Moon Street, Piccadilly, dated 1730, is in like case. The elaborate cartouche displaying the legend "Great James Street 1721," is still in its olden situation in Bloomsbury. The little tablet, "Bird Street 1725," is off to the south side of Oxford Street at its western end, on the confines of Mayfair. The street long since was re-named, and is now "Thomas Street,"

"Cutler's Street 1734," is at the other end of London, off Houndsditch. "Stewkeley's Street 1668," is a somewhat unusual tablet which for many years past has been



in the Guildhall Museum. This was the name of a street leading from Giltspur Street to St. Martin's-le-Grand, afterwards called "Bull and Mouth Street," from the vast inn of that name, which finally became "Queen's Hotel," and was then taken down to build the present huge administrative block of General Post Office buildings, styled officially "G.P.O. North." Antiquaries differ as to the origin of the "Bull and Mouth" sign, some declaring it to be an amalgamation of two signs, and others deriving it from the English capture of Boulogne Harbour—"Boulogne Mouth"—an origin that appears to be fanciful to a degree, and not unlike some of the humorous suggestions by George Steevens, the literary wag at the opening of the



nineteenth century who sought to impose upon learned societies new Shakespearean readings such as "When the Earl of Burghley's done," or "When the early purl is



done," instead of the accepted "When the hurly-burly's done."

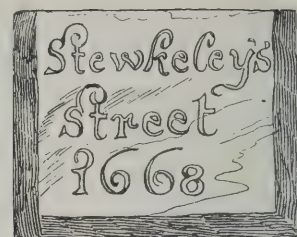
The "Stewkeley Street" tablet is not remarkable for its beauty: only because it is, exceptionally, of marble.

A plain little tablet in Southwark marks the long-forgotten Jubilee of George III, in the inscription: "Jubilee Place 1809."

"Nassau Street in Whetten's Buildings 1734," a street tablet to be found in Soho, is a puzzling inscription; while



"New Lisle Street," hard by, placed high up on the pediment of Leicester House, gives us the late date of 1791. The tablet "Portland Street 1740," is on a house in Soho, on the south side of Oxford Street; a region not generally associated with the Duke of Portland's estate, which is on the north side, where Great Portland Street, Welbeck Street, Duchess Street, Bolsover Street, and many another sufficiently proclaim their ownership to all passers by.



NOW IN THE GUILDHALL MUSEUM.

But there is no place like the City for quaint street names. They are an enduring joy. Turnagain Lane, in Farringdon Street, suggests some association with Dick Whittington; but we must reluctantly admit that it has



no such romantic story. It is "Turnagain" Lane, because there is no way through it; it is not a thoroughfare, and you must needs turn back.

Skinner Street, whose name survives only on a plainly inscribed tablet, date 1802, in the Guildhall Museum, was off Holborn Hill. In those times before the London, Chatham and Dover Railway was made across from Blackfriars to Snow Hill and Farringdon Street, and before the Holborn



NASSAU STREET, SOHO.

Viaduct was constructed, in 1867, the line of road to the City or out of it was by no means straight. Instead of the road going direct and level as it does now between Newgate Street and High Holborn, there was not merely the steep rise and descent of Holborn Hill, but also a circuitous road. This was "Skinner Street," itself somewhat of an improve-



PORTLAND STREET, SOHO.

ent, made in 1802, on the lane which long had existed. The street was the property of Alderman Thomas Skinner, Lord Mayor in 1794, and led into Snow Hill, that considerable rise from Farringdon Street which still exists and comes up on to the east end of Holborn Viaduct, past the church of St. Sepulchre.



FORMERLY ON SNOW HILL, NOW IN THE GUILDHALL MUSEUM.

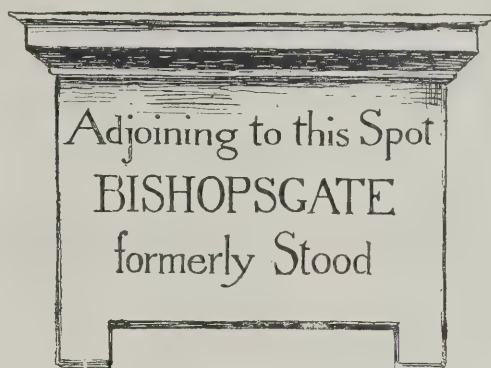
Proceeding eastward from Skinner Street into Newgate Street, the lanes running off to the right, into Paternoster Row, are historic and still narrow. The first of them, Warwick Lane, originally "Eldernes Lane," but renamed from an inn which had in its early days been a town mansion of the Earls of Warwick. A little sculptured stone tablet on the house at the north-west corner of the lane shows a figure of that mythical personage, Guy, Earl of Warwick, in chain-mail, holding sword and shield. The shield bears a chequy charge and a bend sinister, a mistake for the chevron assigned to him in ancient historical works, but were thorough enough to give coat-armour even to personages who never existed. This quaint error of the bend sinister makes the heroic but fictitious Guy an illegitimate : serious enough matter had he been a person of real flesh and blood.

Ivy will in vain be sought in "Ivy Lane," the next turning. Probably it never was to be found there because the name is not descriptive, and is only a corrupted and unrecognisable descent from "Alfies," once "Folk-heres' Lane." From "Alfies" it by degrees became "Yvilane"—or, as some would have it, "Yvilane" became "Alfies." Whichever was the way of it, let us e'en be surprised, and perhaps pleased, that the result was not, as easily it might have been, "Evil Lane"!

The City of London has in these last few years been busily engaged in marking with explanatory plates its historic sites. Only exceptionally had that ever before been done : for example, where, in Bishopsgate Street, by Wormwood and Camomile Streets, a tablet declares "Adjoining this spot Bishopsgate formerly stood." No information is vouchsafed as to when it ceased to stand there ; but I will supply it. That gate in the City wall was removed in 1800.

The City's pious activities to-day in these matters are admirable, but they have been marked occasionally by strange errors that had to be corrected. The plate in St. Dunstons Church, marking the site of the old "Cross Keys" inn, had "Key's" thus—in the singular possessive case ; and the tablet intended to record the site of the old "Cock Tavern," founded in 1549, and made famous by Bunyan and by many before him, was placed, not on the wall of the Bank of England's Law Courts Branch, which is the site of that ancient house of good cheer, demolished in 1877, but on the front of the modern "Cock," on the opposite side of the way. The mistake was very soon pointed out, as well may be supposed ; but that it could be made still shows us how, in the course of but a few years, the memories of old landmarks become utterly confused.

During the year 1917, when the National Service move-



[AT THE CORNER OF WORMWOOD STREET, CITY.

ment (a not very successful one) had its headquarters at the "St. Ermin's Hotel," near Victoria Street, a discussion raged in a daily paper on the identity of the alleged "St. Ermin." The generally-received opinion was that this holy personage had never any existence, but was a myth, the very "Mrs. Harris" of saintly circles ; just as there was never a "St. Enoch," who, in spite of that, forms the dedication of a church and gives a name to a railway-station in Glasgow. It is a corruption of "Thenewth," mother of St. Mungo, otherwise St. Kentigern.

Although there was never a "St. Ermin," it is not difficult to find origins for the name. The site of the hotel is supposed to be that on which, or near which, once stood a Roman surveyors' mound : that mound which became the Toot Hill whence Tothill Street takes its name. It was at one time called "Hermit Hill," obviously because some solitary of that eremitical profession chose to live the secluded and simple life there. The ground was so marshy that he could not possibly live on the flat. Hence, if it please you, the name, in the old Cockney, H-dropping way, became "ermit's 'ill." That is as reliable explanation as any. Stow knew the spot as "St. Hermit's Hill" ; Rosque's eighteenth-century map calls it "Torment Hill." But it does not exhaust the amazing possibilities. St. Erminhild, widow of Walter King, of Mercia, who died at Ely, in the convent there, in A.D. 678, is a likely aspirant. But St. Irmin had his champions. He owned the aliases of "Herman" and "Arminius," and he was a German hero. So he was no good. It is recorded of him that he was chief of the Cherusci, and that he annihilated a Roman army commanded by Varus ; torturing his prisoners, as might be expected of a Hun, and offering them up as sacrifices to the war-gods.

When the Saxons established themselves in Britain they called one of the great Roman roads after him, the "Ermine Street."

But we have not yet done. St. Ermin was someone else : Abbot of the Benedictine Abbey of Lobbes, in Hainault, Belgium. Another claim is made for an early seventh-century St. Ermin, whose real and very appropriate name (if indeed the whole story is not a fabrication) was Severus Magnus. He hated animals and birds, and fell into paroxysms of fury if he saw anyone feeding birds with crumbs. Evidently he would not have been *persona grata* to St. Francis of Assisi, who fortunately flourished centuries later. However, we are told he was converted from these ways and his sins were forgiven by the Pope, and as his sins became as white as snow, he was called "St. Ermin."

Indeed ! Barham himself, author of the *Ingoldsby Legends*, and author of a good many saints for whom we

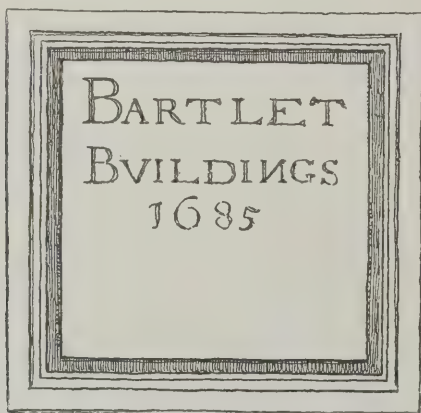
might in vain seek in the calendar of such, might well have been proud of that invention. He too, mentions a saint in whose name is enshrined this elusive one. It will be found in the "Lay of St. Odille." A "She Saint" she was, says Ingoldsby. Odille was being pursued through the Schwartzwald by her angry father, the "Irmin" or "Herman" already mentioned:—

"She fell on her knees in a terrible stew,
Crying, "Holy St. Ermengarde!
Oh! from these vermin guard;
Her whose last hope rests entirely on you;
Don't let papa catch me, dear Saint!—rather kill
At once, *sur-le-champ*, your devoted Odille!"

And now, having seen how these attempted identifications resolve themselves into sheer absurdities, we will leave the matter of "St. Ermin" altogether, except to note that "St. Ermin's Hotel," covering a site of nearly an acre, was put up for auction in February 1924 and failed to find a purchaser at the high value set upon it by the owner. It has over four hundred bedrooms, and is held on a lease of some 970 years yet to run, at a ground-rent of £5,500 a year. The bidding reached £240,000 and the property was then bought in.

So has the value of land and buildings increased, even in these regions of London that a century and a half ago were little more than waste!

Not all people, it would appear, like the old historical names of the streets of London; unless, indeed, they are high-sounding and grandiloquent. Like the City fathers of about 1860, who when they came to give a title to a new thoroughfare, could not endure that it should bear the "common and vulgar" name of the old lane it displaced, "Candlewick Street, and so styled the new way by the unmeaning name of "Cannon Street," these people will have none of the homely old English street-names if possibly they can help it. Even so it was in 1906, when a



BARTLETT'S BUILDINGS, HOLBORN.

firm of auctioneers and house-agents wrote to the Westminster Council, stating that they had some clients who were proposing to take an important block of offices in Tothill Street, at a rental of £3,000; but that these people, it was found, objected to the street-name. It was, they said, "a most unsuitable address for high-class offices." The agents shared this view, and regarded "Tothill Street" as "a depreciatory and misleading name."

The clients—or "customers," as I should prefer to style them; house-agents not being lawyers—had in the result either to forgo their situation in Tothill Street or to put up with the name, for the Westminster Council very properly refused to alter it.

At the same time, it has to be recorded that already, some two years earlier, the inhabitants had petitioned for a change and had been refused.

What, then, ails "Tothill Street" as a name? Nothing that I can recall. There are not many names in London so old, or so full of meaning. Before it was a street, and was known as "Tothill Fields," at that time, in 1797, there was in these fields a bear garden, and perhaps vague

memories of the mobs and riotous assemblages then commonly congregated to see the sport of baiting the bears are responsible for the strange sudden contempt of Tothill Street's name. The "Tut Hill," or prehistoric mound that gave the locality its name, has long been razed. It was by no means the only hill of the name in England. There are many, and a hamlet of "Tutshill" stands beside the road into Chepstow from the Gloucestershire side of the Wye. We have in Wycliffe's Bible, displaced by the Authorised Version, a curious proof of the continued use of Tot Hill and Toot Hill in England, as an understandable term for a beacon-hill or mound in Wycliffe's own day. It is to be found in the Second Book of Samuel. When the Authorised Version tells us, "Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion," Wycliffe's Bible says "Forsooth, David took the totehill of Sion." And further, in the Authorised Version there is "So David dwelt in the fort and called it the City of David," which is, in the earlier translation, "David dwelt in the totehill." Wycliffe you perceive, was one who inclined rather more to the expressions understood of the people than were the extremely academic translators of James the First's time.

The Westminster Council not merely have refused to alter the old name of Tothill Street, but they have reinstated that of "Petty France," which long had been altered to "York Street." This thoroughfare, leading out of Tothill Street, once looked upon St. James's Park. It was, when Milton resided here, in his eight years' sojourn, a very pleasant place. He had a "pretty garden house," No. 19; occupied in 1811 by Hazlitt. There was a "Petty Calais" close by. "Petty Wales," largely occupied by Welshmen, was in Tower Street, Eastcheap, and "Petty Burgundy" in Tooley Street, Southwark.

"Paris Garden" is another ancient street-name that lately has been restored. It is now a grim street of printing establishments off Stamford Street, Blackfriars, but anciently it was the "manor of Paris Garden." In the time of Queen Elizabeth it was partly meadow-land with numerous trees, giving upon the waterside, and there were theatres; among them the "Swan" and the "Paris Garden Theatre." Conspirators and other folk whose affairs were not very reputable made it a place of meeting by night. In 1578 the French Ambassador was arrested here in company with Sir Warham St. Leger and Sir William Morgan. The Ambassador used lofty language but the Watch who had arrested the party said "they knew nothing of his dignitie," and called all three "common night-walkers contrary to the law."



ON THE OLD HOUSE IN COLDBATH FIELDS.

Messrs. Greenwoods, Ltd., builders, Mansfield, have secured the contract for the erection of the new institute to be erected under the welfare scheme at the Pinxton Collieries.

Mr. G. McLeod Paterson has been appointed naval architect to the Cunard Steamship Co., to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Leonard Peckett.

Part of the prison, which has been unused for many years, is to be converted by the Reading Town Council into tenements to alleviate the housing shortage.

The rebuilding of Messrs. Hanley's flour mills at Doncaster, recently destroyed by fire, is to be commenced at once; the cost is estimated at an amount of about £100,000.

Messrs. Forshaw and Palmer, of 9 Market Place, Burton-on-Trent, are the architects for the 20 houses being erected for Hall's Collieries, Ltd.

The Building Trades Exhibition, Olympia, 1924.

Observations by P. W. Hubbard, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Those who attended the opening ceremony of the Building Trades Exhibition on April 11 must have welcomed the opportunity of hearing an address by the Rt. Hon. J. Wheatley, M.P. Whatever one's political opinions, there is no doubt about the sincerity of the New Minister for Health in all questions concerning the very prominent subject of housing. I should like to congratulate Mr. H. G. Montgomery on his enterprise in presenting such an up-to-date and representative exhibition. Though one is acquainted with many of the details of the building trades, there are to be seen at Olympia various novelties and improvements in the different stalls, which perhaps we may be justified in anticipating after an interval of two years.

Under the able chairmanship of Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, P.R.I.B.A., I was able to appreciate the remarks of the speakers, and follow these up by an immediate inspection of the examples to which they had referred.

The Exhibition maintains the high standard of previous years, and, as Mr. Wheatley remarked, every one, from manufacturers, merchants, builders, to students and operatives were represented. One cannot help contrasting Olympia as it is to-day with the Ideal Home Exhibition which came to an end last month. As is natural, it presents a more workmanlike appearance, and, though perhaps of less interest to the public, one is struck upon entering the building by the great variety of exhibits. One perceives that the floor space is well filled, but not over-congested. This is, no doubt, on account of the use made of the new extension to Hammersmith Road. The space in this hall is less occupied than in the main building. This year there are certain improvements in the positions held by the various trades. One does not have to wander the length of the hall in order to find different specimens of paint, etc., although it must be mentioned that certain things, like ovens, geysers and gas cookers, are separated in some instances by as many as eight rows.

One does not want to make invidious distinctions between the appearance of the stands, but on the whole there is room for much improvement in design, and with one or two exceptions the lettering does not reach a high standard. I should like to mention, however, the pleasing aspect of Messrs. Haskins' Stand, No. 278, Row P.

Major Petrie, President of the Institute of Structural Engineers, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Wheatley, recommended for consideration the employment of concrete for housing purposes, the great advantage of this material being that it can be used and erected by unskilled labour, with the result that work may be found for the unemployed. On this account, I looked for the examples of concrete and methods of building, and noted the stand of the Triangular Construction Company, No. 35, Row C. Here, from the models shown, one may see how the actual walling is built up by the use of triangular blocks. It seemed to me that great economy in cement may be effected by that process. Triangular blocks containing air spaces are made in six different sizes, all multiples of one. The chief advantages seem to be that no cutting is required, thus economy of handling and speed of erection is insured, and the weight on foundations is not great. The outside block is impervious, and a porous clinker block is used for the inside, thus the tendency to "sweat" is reduced.

One of the points of this Exhibition is that it contains much of interest which would be of value to people who wished to erect small and economical houses for themselves, and it thus, like the Ideal Home Exhibition, caters for the requirements of housewives.

To ladies who are interested in cooking and domestic hot water supplies, I would recommend their investigating the following stands, namely:—

That of the Triplex Foundry, Ltd., No. 10, Row B, who have on view a new pattern of double-oven kitchen range, which, owing to its winding flue, uses up all the available heat, which is equally distributed round the oven. It is

claimed that the consumption of coal is nearly one-third of the old kitchen range. I should like to mention their ingenious trivet, which can be made of great service owing to its method of being moved and rearranged. In this connection I should like to refer to Allan Ure & Co., Stand 33, Row C, and the Interoven Stove Co., Ltd., Stand 210, Row K.

The Falkirk Iron Company, No. 228, Row L, have a "smooth-top," cabinet gas range with the latest labour and gas saving and waste preventing devices. I am glad to note that this cooker is raised on legs, and is consequently much more easy for the cook to manage.

While passing down Row L visits should be paid in this connection to O. Bruster, No. 220, Row L, who produce the "Glow Worm" boiler, a very serviceable little article.

Messrs. Smith & Wellstood's, Stand 222, Row L, "Hydresse" domestic water heater, with visible fire and flat top, is also exhibited. This was first shown at the last Ideal Home Exhibition.

Perhaps one of the most interesting examples of economy may be seen by studying the various geysers, such as those exhibited by Thomas Fildes at Stand No. 289, Row Q, and the Califont Hot Water Service by Ewart & Son, on Stand No. 198, Row K. It would appear to those who contemplate building a small house, where reduction of cost and labour-saving appliances are desired, that this "Califont" system does away with the necessity for installing hot water tanks, with its system of pipes, as, by turning on the hot water tap in either the bath, lavatory basin or scullery sink an instant supply of hot water can be obtained. The mere action of turning on the tap raises the burners in the geyser, which is automatically shut down the moment the tap is turned off. The installation and price of this geyser is not necessarily cheap, except in the case of a new house, but it seems to us that they are undoubtedly money and labour saving when in use.

A somewhat cheaper system is shown by Clarkhill's, Ltd., No. 219, Row L, and New Geysers, Ltd., No. 139, Row G.

This Exhibition, if not prolific in constructional appliances, has examples that are well worth a visit. The Kleine Fire-Resisting Syndicate, No. 116, Row F, show to advantage their constructive system. The lightness and strength of their methods are well known. Siegwart Fire-Proof Floor Company, No. 92, Row E, have also many points to commend them, notably that of their hollow concrete and reinforced beam, which up to 20 feet span requires no centering. While at this Stand one may also draw attention to their concrete safe which, when painted and finished, looks just like steel.

Those who enter from the Hammersmith Road should certainly look at the fine exhibition of drawings which are shown immediately to the left of the entrance. I was pleased to see that some drawings of the late C. E. Mallows are shown here.

For those interested in architectural books, we would recommend the Stand of Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd.

I will now enumerate a series of exhibits which are of more interest to architects and those engaged in the building trades than to the public. William Oliver & Sons, No. 6, Row B, show a new feature at this Exhibition, namely, a trunk of an oak tree which exemplifies the type of lumber they use. There has been a certain amount of controversy in the technical Press of recent days on the subject of imitations, and whether or no one agrees with these devices, there can be no two opinions on the way deceptions are produced. It is an old saying that "if you want to lie, lie well," and we must certainly congratulate Bellman, Ivey & Carter, Ltd., No. 113, Row F, on their imitations of marble. They certainly produce very fine specimens of slabs which for colour and finish are remarkable. They also show two sienna columns which formed part of their exhibit in the International Exhibition of 1862.

Fassio Marble, No. 44, Row L, is a product which, though

not cheap, can be cut with a saw, and is economical in handling. A fine finish is also given to it by friction polish. While on the subject of imitations, I should like to mention Buss & Elston, Ltd., No. 225, Row L, who have arranged some ply panelling adjacent to some real old wainscoting, and it is certainly impossible to detect any difference. They estimate that their ply wood comes out at about 3s. per foot, fixed.

I recall one of the features of the Ideal Home Exhibition was the method of seeing how waterproofing materials will keep out the percolation of moisture. Similarly, Kerner, Greenwood & Co., No. 49, Row C, give examples of a section of wall down one side of which flows a continuous stream of water, while the other side treated with "Pudlo" remains perfectly dry. Perhaps their most striking exhibit is their vertical damp course, which could be very suitably used in houses which have been condemned on account of damp. It is this system which was used at Windsor Castle.

On the subject of bricks, I regret to note that the price seems as high as ever, and most of the exhibits in this connection would thus be unsuitable for housing schemes. For people, however, who desire to build in an "antique" manner, there are varieties of beautiful textured and multi-coloured handmade bricks and tiles, which together with 6 inch by 3 inch by 2 inch bricks enable very

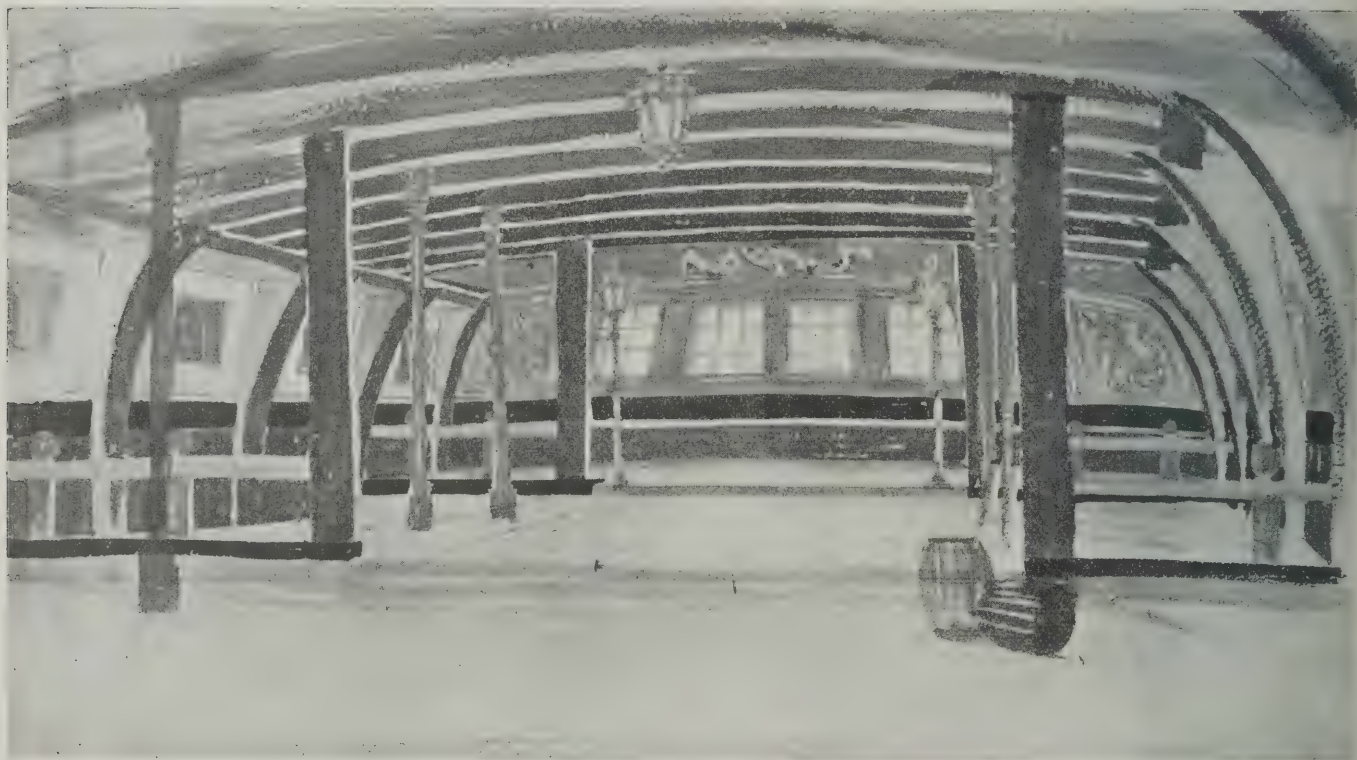
charming designs to be evolved, both for exterior cottage work and interior hall fireplaces. W. T. Wright & Co., No. 95, Row E, and W. T. Lamb & Sons, No. 97, Row E, & Lawrence.

For factory work and garages, the British Fibrocement Works, No. 144, Row G, have produced fibro tiles of great strength.

The "Old Delabole" slate quarries of Cornwall, which have been working for over 360 years, have produced a most successful example of what may be achieved with this material. Visitors to Stand No. 294, Row G, should have a look at the red and green Random slates which are there exhibited, and also a particularly interesting exhibit is that of the Burlington Slate Quarries, No. 248, Row N.

The Exhibition is prolific in paints, enamels, and distemper, and in this connection I should like to mention a very nice black ebony "semi-lustre" finish which Mander Bros., Ltd., No. 141, Row G, are exhibiting, and a fine range of distempers on Stand No. 100, Row E, made by the Silicate Paint Co., J. B. Orr & Co., Ltd.

On the whole, I may say that this Exhibition maintains the high standard of previous years, and I can certainly recommend that all those interested in the building trades should make a point of visiting this varied and representative display.



SHIP CAFE.—ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.
ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMANSHIP EXHIBITION AT THE OLYMPIA.

Durax Tracing Paper.

We draw the attention of our readers to the Durax tracing paper which was introduced on to this market about two years ago. We deemed it advisable to delay criticising this paper until it had been in use for a certain period, because we know from past experience many tracing papers appear to be everything that could be desired when fresh from the factory, but soon deteriorate and become very brittle and consequently quite useless, especially when exported to tropical climates.

The Durax tracing paper has, however, now been tested and has not been found wanting: in fact, to use the manufacturers' own words, it is "making friends everywhere."

The originator of this paper had one great advantage in his favour—not only was his firm probably the oldest tracing paper manufacturers in England, but he himself had served his time in a drawing office, and therefore had actual first-hand knowledge of a draughtman's requirements. The chief point he kept before him was to use in the manufacture only the finest materials available. This was in order to obtain a paper that was very tough with a hard surface, so that it would be equally suitable for

pen or pencil or colour, stand an unusual amount of erasure, and retain its strength in exceptionally trying circumstances. These conditions have apparently been fulfilled to the letter. The Durax is now used not only by architects and surveyors, but in large engineering drawing offices, shipbuilding yards, Colonial Government offices, etc.: and, in proof of its keeping qualities, an instance that has been brought to our notice is that a sample which has been in the Straits Settlements for two years appears to be as strong as the day it was despatched; whereas other tracing papers in the same sample book had perished.

Every roll is packed in a neat, strong cardboard tube which will be found very useful for keeping the paper after the packing wrappers have been removed.

The Durax is naturally more expensive than the ordinary run of tracing papers because of the quality of the materials used. It is, however, a real pleasure to work on it, and, on account of its durability and lack of waste, it will be found in the long run to be economical. The leading stationers can supply a sample on application.

Building Trades Exhibition at the Olympia—II.



POSTER FOR THE EXHIBITION.
Designed by HUGH W. MARTIN-KAYE.

The Opening of the Building Trades Exhibition.

On Friday last, at 12 noon, the Right Hon. J. Wheatley, the Minister of Health, opened the Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia. The chair was taken by Mr. J. A. Gotch, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

It was naturally anticipated that the Minister might possibly have some pronouncement to make on the housing question. He informed us that the nation needed working-class houses in large numbers and at a low price. He told us that which all in the building industries know, and know too well, that there is a shortage of skilled workmen, but what, unfortunately, he did not tell us was that he had used his undoubted ability with the Trades Union leaders to waive the Unions' objection to two vital points—the withdrawal of the embargo on overtime and the setting up of the standard of work that should be the utmost of a workman's capabilities, and not, as at present, the limitation of output. The cure for the present condition is to be found on such lines and the present Minister of Health has a golden opportunity. The arrangement which has been entered into by means of which a better appreciation of the requirements of apprentices should largely help in the production of an increased number of skilled men is helpful towards a solution, but skilled men are not turned out in a few weeks, and we are convinced that the only cure for the present evil is the immediate withdrawal of all limitation of output throughout the whole of the building industries. The opening remarks by the President were a fine, generous appreciation of the Exhibition, an earnest desire that architects and builders would both take the opportunity of seeing the varied and valuable collection of material on hand and for work from foundation to roof, whether of cottage, mansion or block of buildings, which may be found within the walls of Olympia. The Minister's address was entirely devoted to the housing shortage, and was an earnest appeal

to all—manufacturer, builder and workman—to get on with the work as speedily as possible.

The vote of thanks, which was somewhat lengthy, was in the hands of Major Petrie, President of the Institute of Structural Engineers, very commendably seconded in a short and happy little speech by Mr. Johnson, past President of the Institute of Clayworkers.

The Exhibition is well worth a visit; it is the largest and best which has been held under the able supervision of Mr. H. Greville Montgomery and his brother, and will well repay the time spent. We resume our notices of particular exhibits, calling attention to the fact that a large number of the most important were dealt with in our previous issue, April 11.

The Exhibition remains open until Saturday, April 26.

Messrs. Alabastine Co. (British), Ltd., 16 Church Street, South Lambeth, London, S.W.8.: Stand No. 138, Row G. Two products are shown on this stand, "Alabastine" and "Jelstone." The former is used for plain wall tinting and whitening, it can also be applied to stencil work. Varnish can be applied by using the firm's water enamel. Alabastine is very effective as a priming under paint.

Messrs. Anselm, Odling & Sons, Ltd., 132 New North Road, London, N.1, Stand No. 107, Row F, are exhibiting, among other things, a variety of coloured marbles, also worked samples showing the various ways in which marble masonry can be turned to account for interior and exterior decoration for buildings, including marble paving to design, chimney-pieces, hearths, turned pedestals, vases, sculptured figures, etc.

Messrs. William Boby & Co., Ltd., 62-64 Brook Street, Hanover Square, W.1, are showing on Stand No. 99, Row E, examples of different sizes of household water softeners, some of them upon the pressure system and others for working by gravity. The pressure plants are their "Boby-Azed" type, which give zero water and require common salt as the only reagent. These plants can be connected to the water pipes of any household arrangement. No deposit or sludge is formed; the plant is compact in design, and by its action will keep hot-water boilers and pipes perfectly clean, whilst the water softened in this manner is excellent for all domestic purposes, including the drinking supply. The gravity type of plant is the "Boby" type "K," which is suitable for softening any hard water by means of a reagent known as "Alkos" powder. The plants occupy small space and possess the advantage that they can be employed where it is required to remove iron from water, which is frequently present in many of the supplies throughout England. This type of plant can also be employed where the water, naturally soft, is corrosive, and this tendency it eliminates, so that the water can be safely employed for use with iron pipes and boilers. Equally with the "Azed" pressure type, the water as softened by the type "K" machine is suitable for drinking and all domestic purposes. In addition to the above appliances, a sample of the large type of lime-soda is exhibited, the machine being suitable for the softening of large volumes of water for public supplies and all industrial purposes.

Messrs. The British Opalograph Co., Ltd., 7 Thayer Street, James Street, Oxford Street, W., Stand No. 301, Row Q, are showing the Opalograph copying apparatus, an invention for reproducing by a simple chemical process any kind of line work true to scale, drawings, maps, plans, sketches, bill-heads, schedules, designs, costing accounts, handwriting and type-writing at practically the cost of the paper. It is clean and effective and demonstrators are in attendance all day.

Messrs. Cakebread, Robey & Co., Ltd., Caroba Works, High Road, Wood Green, N.22, Stand No. 209, Row K, are exhibiting some exclusive designs of wood chimney pieces and tiled fireplaces, including their "Caroba" hearth fires. Also chimney pieces in slate and finished to imitate wood colourings, register stoves, complete with self-contained flues and high pressure boilers. These stoves are very suitable for dining or living rooms, especially where houses are built without kitchens and a constant supply of hot water is needed. With these stoves, one fire does the work of two and heats the room and the domestic supply of hot water at the same time. The "Gladwyfe" combination sitting and living room grates is a special feature—the latest labour-saving device—embracing all that is required for cooking, with large oven, hot closet and a boiler for heating domestic supply to baths, lavatory basins and radiators, while at the same time keeping the appearance of a sitting room grate.

Open fire portable cooking ranges, with and without boilers. Varied selection of tile mantel registers and mantel registers for small sitting rooms and bedrooms. Portable coppers for coal and gas. Hot water domestic boilers, including the "Koke," "Sentry" and "Ideal." Included in the display of sanitary goods are white porcelain enamelled baths, lavatory basins, pedestal closet suites and bathroom fittings, etc., etc.

Messrs. Carter & Co., Ltd., Encaustic Tile Works, Poole, Dorset, and 29 Albert Embankment, London, S.E.11, Stand No. 105, Row F, are showing glazed wall tiling for interior and exterior of every description of building; floor tiles for all purposes, including plain, vitreous and mosaics (Roman, circles, etc.). They are also showing examples of their ceramic constructional materials in ceramic marble (glazed terra-cotta) and faience, which have been extensively used for theatre, cinema, shop, public building and hotel façades; and samples of the firm's all-tile fireplaces, designed to give a maximum of fuel economy and radiation of heat with a minimum of labour, together with designs which can be adapted to any style of decoration. On Stand No. 298, Row Q, Messrs. Carter & Co., Ltd., are showing various samples of mosaics, such as Roman marble cube mosaic, vitreous glass mosaic, Venetian glass mosaic, terrazzo work in various forms suitable for pavings, dadoes, staircase and partition slabs. Samples of "Carterite" jointless flooring are also shown. The above-mentioned materials are particularly suitable for public buildings, hospitals, offices, etc., etc.

Regular exhibitors, Carron Company, of Carron, Stirlingshire, have their display at Stand No. 164, Row H. Their exhibit comprises ranges, firegrates, baths, electric and gas cooking and heating appliances, all in keeping with the Carron standard. Included in the exhibit is "The Carron," the "Range of Results." This range, fitted with an inner glass oven door, embodies all the latest improvements, including cast iron flues, hot closet with glass doors, etc. The popular portable range, the "Beetonette," has its usefulness increased with a high pressure back boiler. An outstanding feature of the stand is the new "Carronia" combination firegrate (Preston's patent). It is slow combustion in action and has no complicated or troublesome regulating devices. A special feature of the "Carronia" is that all heat is utilised and simply regulated by adjusting the canopy. The "Carronia" also gives a copious supply of hot water.

The firegrates on view include mantel registers—examples of the "Glen" and "Castle"—interior grates in armour bright and rustless steel, and grates fitted with back boilers. A few mantel-pieces are shown, while a number of firegrates are displayed complete in suites. Porcelain enamelled baths, lavatory basins, washing coppers, electric and gas cookers and fires complete the exhibit.

Messrs. Chemical and Engineering Products, Ltd., 5 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, are showing on Stand No. 271, Row P, their "Wetherite" wood preserving stain for both inside and exterior woodwork.

Messrs. S. & E. Collier, Ltd., Grovelands, Reading, have constructed a pavilion on Stand No. 59, Row D. The same pavilion occupies a site 20 feet by 10 feet, exposed on three sides, and is rectangular on plan, designed as a garden house or tea room, with double recessed semicircular arch and splayed jambs and tile impost forming entrance, with a pair of painted transparent green doors at one end, and at each side a semi-headed window flanked by lead glazed and bright red brick bull's-eye windows in square recessed panels filled in with roof tiles, and the whole set in a surround of silver-grey bricks recessed 1½ inches framed by the plinth, angle piers and frieze of multi-coloured bricks. The eaves soffits are formed of three courses of alternately projecting tiles, and the roof is covered with thick hand-made sand-faced tiles, saddle-back hips and bare half-round ridge. The interior walls are finished with light red thin sand-faced bricks, a semicircular niche of special cast bricks with moulded sill being formed at the opposite end to entrance. The floor, with its cove skirting, is formed in panels laid with brick on edge of herring-bone, straight and radial design, in the centre of which is a 4-feet circle enclosing an eight-pointed star of black and white sand-pressed shaped slabs. The pavilion has been erected by Messrs. S. & E. Collier, Ltd., of Reading, with their own bricks, to the design prepared by Mr. Albert J. Thomas, M.S.A., Lic.R.I.B.A.

Messrs. The Conbloc Co., Proprietor H. Banger, 107 Lingfield Road, East Grinstead, Sussex, Stand No. 264, Row O. Practical demonstrations in the use of the "Conbloc" concrete blockmaking machine are given every day on this stand. The machine is simple in design, and easily and expeditiously manipulated by one man. An average of 160 blocks can be made by him, including mixing and carrying away, in a single day of nine hours. It has the great advantage of

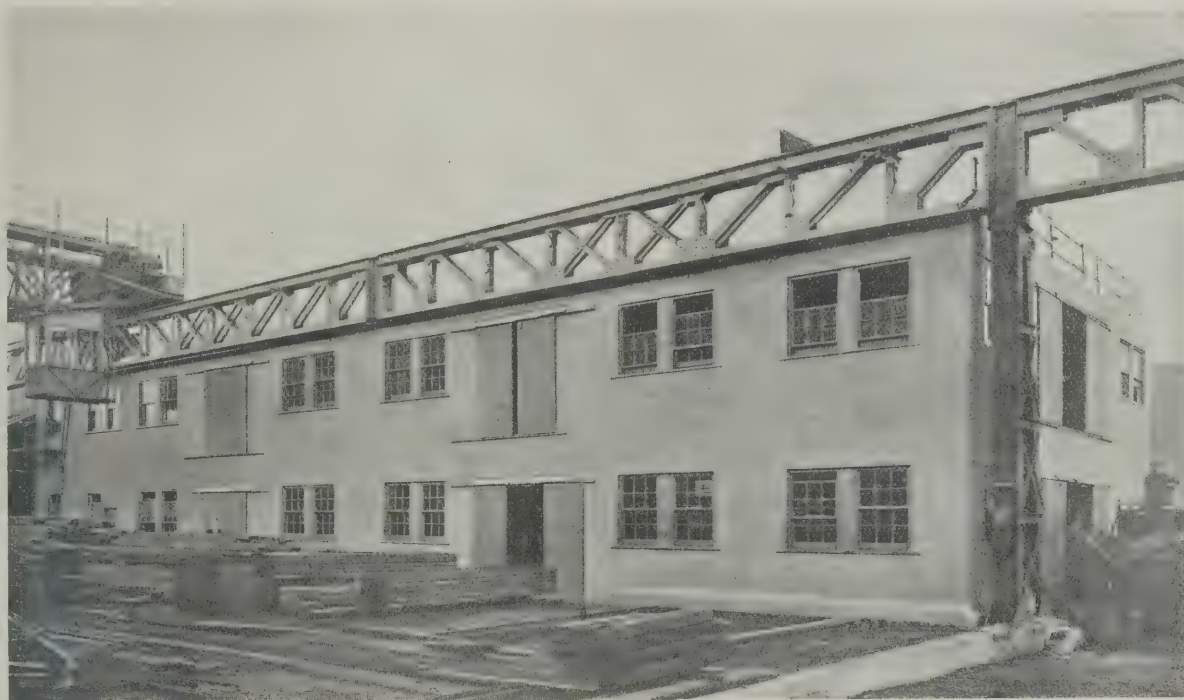
being quickly adapted for making many different types of blocks. By a simple adjustment, 18 inch by 9 inch blocks can be made any thickness up to 6 inches. By the insertion of an iron core which is supplied with the machine, the patent "Conbloc" can be made. This is a hollow block, size 18 inches by 9 inches by 6 inches, with a removable wire grip, which enables the blocks to be very easily handled. It is generally considered one of the finest blocks made. Finished face blocks, paving blocks and sectional wall copings, etc., can also be made in the machine. Several thousands of these machines have been used in connection with the carrying out of housing schemes in Cornwall and Sussex.



POSTER FOR THE EXHIBITION.
Designed by HUGH W. MARTIN-KAYE.

Messrs. The Davis Gas Stove Co., Ltd., 60 Oxford Street, London, W.1, are displaying on Stand No. 154, Row H, the following: (1) "Rubston" gas fireplace, (2) "Nautilus" gas flue blocks, (3) "Improved Nautilus" coal grate, (4) "Alpine Extended" gas range, (5) "Garba" portable gas heater. The fundamental fuel-saving principle in the "Nautilus" coal grates is naturally incorporated in the "Improved Nautilus" grate. Minor details rendered unnecessary by certain adjustments of design are the chief structural differences between the "Improved Nautilus" and former patterns. The cost of the latest patterns is substantially less, and it will also be found that the general appearance of the grates is greatly improved. The "Rubston" gas fireplace—the name "Rubston" is derived from the appearance of the material of which the surrounds are made and which resembles rubbed stone—can be supplied in grey sandstone finish as well as in red sandstone. The surround is in one piece. It will be seen that the examples shown are of a very artistic and attractive nature. The elimination from the home of the ugly black gas stoves of former days and the building in of an artistic unit will be appreciated by all. The Nautilus "Garba" portable gas heater appears to us to have a very useful purpose. We often have to work for short periods of time in a large room—our reference library is placed in such an apartment. The "Garba" will radiate heat in our direction whilst we are in the room. It is not necessary therefore to turn on the ordinary heaters, which, by virtue of the size of the room, must take some time before they become effective.

The Devonshire School of Lettering (proprietors, J. W. Bland & Co. (Morecambe), Ltd.), Devonshire Hall, Morecambe, Lancs, have displayed on their Stand No. 300, Row Q, many examples of the "Gilbert" grey handle "One Stroke" and "Perfect



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Stroke" brushes, in sable, ox, and squirrel, specially built by signwriters for signwriters. The "Gilbert" Book of Lettering and supply catalogue, containing up-to-date styles of lettering and reproductions of actual signwork by their sign department, can also be inspected.

Messrs. The Diamond Tread Co., Ltd., 28 Victoria Street, S.W.1, are displaying on Stand 187, Row J, a number of examples of the company's patent "Diamond" non-slip treads and tiles, as applied to different purposes, such as "L" section treads suitable for hotels, "M" section treads, used best in tramway cars and omnibuses; "Diamond" non-slipping tiles and mosaics, composed of sparkling grit and a special cement of great hardness, and many other specimens which will appeal to architects and builders.

Messrs. A. Dreyfus, Ltd., Belper Works, Belper Street, Lofting Road, London, N.1, are exhibiting portions of stone showing part of the stone decayed and part restored by their process on their Stand No. 38, Row C. Carvings executed on the stone are treated *in situ*, another of their specialities. On the stand will also be seen examples of brickwork showing the weathered portions and those parts treated with the firm's "Preserva" stone. These exhibits are of a very interesting nature, as they are displayed in a manner which is very convincing.

Drummond Bros., Ltd., Rideshill, Guildford, Stand No. 42, Row C, show the "Willing Worker" concrete mixer, complete on flexible steel trolley with 3 b.h.p. "Willing Worker" paraffin engine. This is a light-weight machine with a capacity of 6 to 8 cubic yards per hour, and a very economical machine to run, the fuel consumption being very low. The machine is arranged for hand tipping. The engine, arranged within a steel cover to exclude dust, etc., is so placed that it is available for driving other machines, pumps or the like, if the mixer itself is not required. Another exhibit worth special note is the "Willing Worker" diaphragm pump, complete with paraffin engine, the whole being carried on transport trolley. This pump has an actual capacity of 5,000 gallons per hour, with a lift of up to 20 feet, the suction pipe being 4 inches diameter.

Messrs. The Eclipse Rail-Track Ladder Co., 40, Newfoundland Street, Bristol, England, are exhibiting on Stand No. 315, Row R, examples of their rail-track extension ladders, extension scaffold boards, adjustable ladder brackets, etc. A special feature has been made on this stand of the company's latest improved pattern of paperhangers' folding tables.

Messrs. The Educational Supply Association, Ltd., Stevenage House, 40-44 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1, are exhibiting, on Stand No. 309, Row R, Esavian joinery and woodwork. The stand is painted pure white, and illustrates principally folding casements and doors. We do not recollect having before seen folding casements worked in a like manner to the one shown on this stand, which makes a direct appeal by virtue of its extremely simple construction. The casement is run in a groove which prevents draughts, and also controls the folding and unfolding. We cannot imagine a more delightful arrangement applied to windows which command picturesque views. The folding doors pack away into a very confined space, and are also run and controlled by a similar device as that which is employed in connection with the casements. A telephone cabinet executed in Esavian joinery closed with Esavian folding doors, seems to be eminently suitable for spaces where it is impossible to hang a door. The Educational Supply Association have for many years been closely connected with the production of scholastic and library fittings and furniture of a very high quality.

Messrs. Samuel Elliott & Sons (Reading), Ltd., London office, 18 Hanover Square, W.1, Stand No. 190, Row J. Two very fine columns surmounted by bronze caps modelled by Mr. Roslyn, sculptor, are one of the chief features of this stand. Between these columns Messrs. Elliott have placed one of their revolving doors. The firm has made a speciality of these revolving doors, and has gained a very good reputation for their high quality. There can be no doubt in the minds of all thinking persons that the revolving door is the best and last word for all public buildings where a constant stream of pedestrian traffic is the rule. Beyond the doors on the stand one enters an artistically panelled room, and beyond this room we are invited to inspect an oak panelled apartment which has a great charm in that the oak is in its natural colour, and has been finished with a rough surface. Messrs. Elliott have very wisely confined themselves to exhibiting only such work as will make a direct appeal to members of the architectural profession and the building trade. They are well-known shopfitters, but have not shown anything in connection with this very important branch of their business. They are to be complimented on this concentration of effort, and all visitors to the exhibition will be charmed by the taste they have shown in the display they have made.

Messrs. Evans & Ronald, Ltd., 7 Denman Street, London Bridge, S.E.1, are showing on Stand No. 23, Row B, specimens of their "Bullet Catch and Bolt Combined" and "Eddoll" gate latch. In addition to these two very interesting and useful articles a patent electric light director, sold at a remarkably low price, is also exhibited on the stand. This patent, when fixed to the existing flex and shade, enables one to throw the light on any angle or in any direction, from the ceiling to the table. It should be invaluable for architects, builders, workshops, factories, etc.

Messrs. Ewart & Son, Ltd., 346, 348 and 350 Euston Road, N.W.1, exhibit on Stand No. 198, Row K, a number of patents for which the company have secured a well-deserved reputation for high-class quality and finish. The "Califont" system of water heating ensures an instantaneous and continuous hot water service throughout the house. Only one heater is required, from which a hot water service pipe can be taken direct to bath, lavatory or sink. The gas is regulated by the drawing-off water tap, and only burns fully whilst the water is being withdrawn. The "Lightning" and "Victor" geysers are well-known patterns, both being fitted with automatic gas-controlling valves and safety swing-out burners. The company have also geysers which can be heated by paraffin oil, wood, or coal for country districts where gas is not available. Other patents of interest to be seen on the stand include the "Emperor" cowl and Ewart's "Boilo" copper.

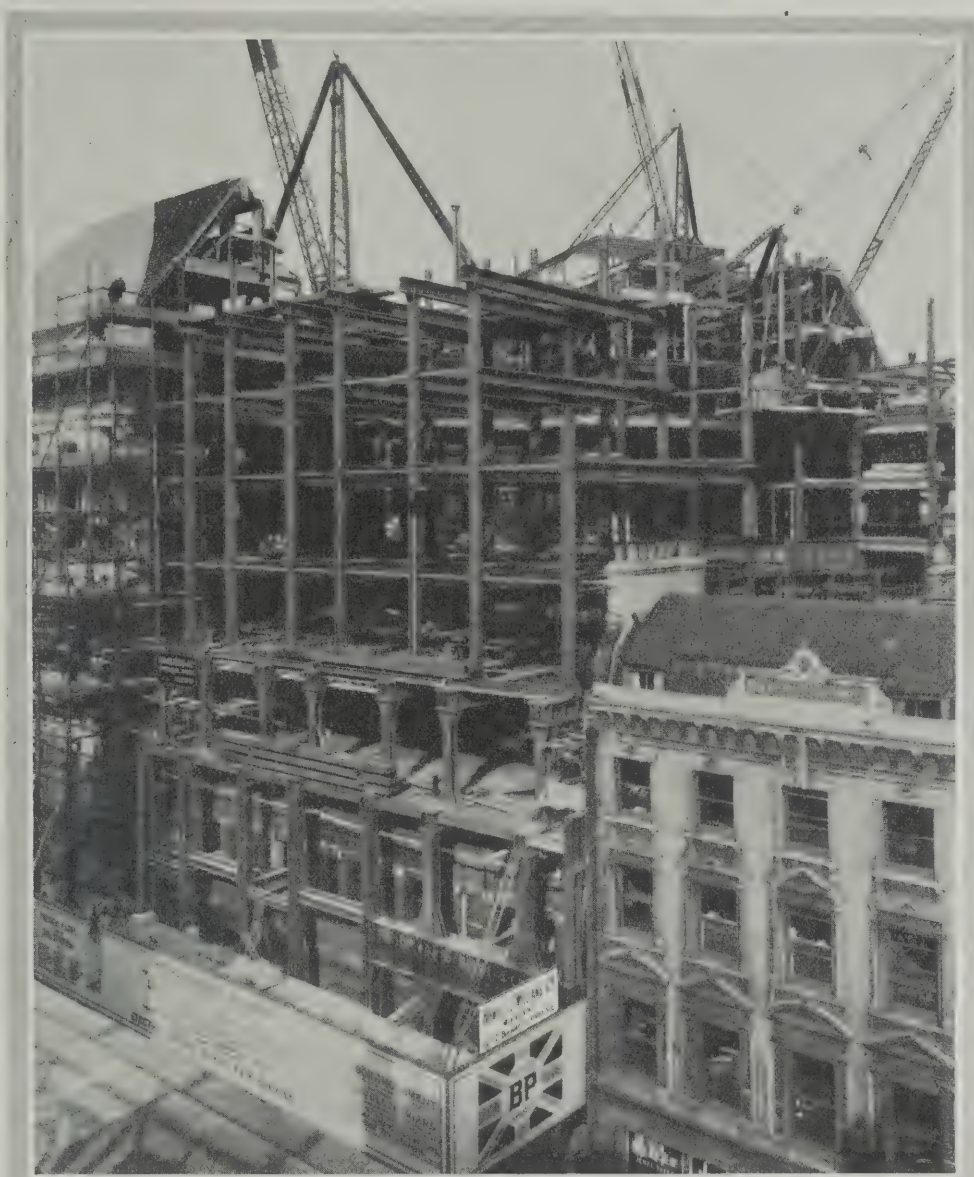
One of the most interesting exhibits at the building exhibition now opened at Olympia is that of the Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., who are showing, on Stand No. 228, Row L, a complete series of their Smoothtop gas ranges. Whether one's cooking requirements are little or great the Smoothtop ranges offer a number of outstanding advantages. A height that eliminates discomfort, a closed top of perfect smoothness, and a general compactness of arrangement are among the features which save labour and ensure satisfaction. A very attractive Smoothtop model of a small type is known as the No. 1. This is a combined oven and grill and marks a distinct advance in gas ranges for small houses. Smoothtop No. 2 has a large cover and a small grilling chamber at the side, its neat appearance resembling that of a double oven range. The large type Smoothtop No. 3 has a duplex roasting or grilling oven and a large baking or roasting oven.

The heat supply arrangements on all Smoothtop models are very ingenious and ensure the utmost economy in gas in combination with the maximum heating advantage. With one burner alight two vessels can be boiled, with two burners on three vessels can be kept boiling and one simmering, and with three burners on four or five vessels can be kept boiling. In each model automatic lighters for all the hot-plate burners are fitted in combination with a pilot light. The heat regulators can be adjusted to suit any required pressure. Each Smoothtop oven is double cased and packed with a non-conducting material, making it possible to maintain heat in the oven for a long time after the burners are turned off. A baffle plate is fitted at the bottom of the oven over the burners and the articles being cooked are thus not exposed to a naked flame.

Used in conjunction with the Birnwell hot water boiler and stove, a Smoothtop range makes an ideal kitchen equipment. In the Birnwell all the advantages of an open fire can be obtained, and the top of this apparatus can be utilised for boiling vessels in addition to the function of heating water for the house supply. The Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., are also exhibiting a range of the Osborne combination kitchen and sitting-room grates in various types, and also a selection of very artistic Alfred Stevens bronze and stainless steel open fireplaces.

Messrs. George Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., 34 St. John Street, West Smithfield, E.C.1, have a very pleasing and attractive stand, No. 66, Row "D." They are displaying their "Oceanic" and "Baltic" glass in white and many tints. They have an interesting specimen board of lead goods of which they are manufacturers. The stand is decorated with their "Father Thames" genuine white lead paint, white "Stargloss" enamel paint and white "Eskimo" leadless paints. Two inside walls are treated with lead "Zingessol" washable water paint, and the panels on the exterior of the stand display many of the tints which this can be supplied in. A number of sanitary ware fittings are also exhibited.

Messrs. Fenlon & Son, 8 Tudor Street, London, E.C.4, Stand No. 29, Row C. On this stand will be seen the "Fenlon-Shrewsbury" geysers, which supply hot water *ad lib.* at any moment without delay; "Tudor" geyser, with patent eccentric automatic valve and swing-out burner; "C.C. Fleet" geyser, with patent interlocking gas and water taps; "Fleet" geyser,



BRITANNIC HOUSE, E.C.2 (Moorgate Front).
Architect:
Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

Steelwork Manufactured and Erected by
Redpath, Brown & Co. Ltd.

REDPATH, BROWN & CO. Ltd.

CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERS,

3 LAURENCE POUNTNEY HILL, E.C.4

WORKS AND STOCKYARDS

LONDON
Riverside Works,
East Greenwich, S.E.

MANCHESTER
Trafford Park.

EDINBURGH
St. Andrew
Steel Works.

GLASGOW
Westburn, Newton.
Office: 19 Waterloo St.

BIRMINGHAM
Office:
47 Temple Row.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Office:
Milburn House.

REGISTERED OFFICES: 2 St. Andrew Square, EDINBURGH.

"Wonder" geyser, "Mani-Supply" geyser, "Pressure" geyser, "Shrewsbury-Calda" geyser, "Queen" and "Bantam" lavatory geysers; "Tudor" oil geyser with wickless stove; "C.C. Fleet" fuel geyser (burns wood, coal or any other solid fuel); "Dorset" water heater for sinks, basins; and many other patterns of geysers and other accessories.

Messrs. Heffer, Scott & Co., Ltd., 21 and 56, Berners Street, London, W.1, Stand No. 156, Row H., are showing on one side of the stand Chinese pilaster decoration and on the other a stencil fruit pilaster, with plain fillings in between. Many examples of this firm's unique wallpaper designs can be inspected at leisure on the stand. A working demonstration is also being given on the stand throughout the whole Exhibition of "Keystone" flat oil paint.

Messrs. Hooley Hill Rubber and Chemical Co., Audenshaw near Manchester, exhibit on Stand No. 37, Row C, many varieties shades and thicknesses of rubber flooring and tiling. The stand will also show various illustrations dealing with the subject of road paving blocks. The method of application of a new patented rubber roadway will be shown by the Universal Rubber Paviers (Manchester, 1923), Ltd., Audenshaw, near Manchester.

Messrs. Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., associated with John Smith & Son (Haltwhistle), Ltd.: Stand 260, Row O. This stand, which houses the commodities of Messrs. Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., and Messrs. John Smith & Son (Haltwhistle), Ltd., is simply designed, but shows the products of the associated firms in actual use. Outside and in are equally employed for display. "Saneros," a useful water paint, "Protecteros," a high gloss finish with special qualities of density and lasting gloss, and Hoyle's S.P.P. (semi-prepared paint). The virtues of Tynewhite and the lustrous qualities of Tynelac and Paluste—made by John Smith & Son, Ltd.—are adequately shown in the decorations and on panels. One half of the interior is given over to a display of paint-making on a unique machine made by the Brentside Engineering Co., Brentford, London. This machine, the Cheyne Mixer and Grinder, will mix, pug or grind paints, enamels, water paints, etc., in one operation. It embodies an entirely new principle, giving a forced feed through the grinder. It is fitted with a water-cooled cone, micrometer adjustment, and all thrusts are taken on ball bearings.

Messrs. The Hurry Water Heater Co., 39 Broad Street, Birmingham, Stand No. 199, Row K, are showing their ordinary designs of water heaters, which are of the storage method, and thus rather differ from the ordinary geyser. The "Hurry" geysers are also on view and are very suitable for small villa property.

The stand No. 140, Row G, representing the associate houses of Messrs. Robert Ingham Clark & Co., Ltd., and R. Gay & Co., Ltd., is composed of five columns arranged round a forecourt having two private offices at the back. The columns are decorated with Pearline. The front of the offices, which forms a background for the white columns, has been decorated with Gaymatt flat oil finish, and is of a deep blue colour. The sides and back of the stand are decorated with Gaymatt flat oil finish in various shades, while Walgay washable distemper has been used on the walls of the offices.

Messrs. the Ironite Co., Ltd., 9-11 Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W.1, Stand No. 106, Row F. Here will be seen photographs of works executed and also specimens of the product. It is claimed for "Ironite" brand cements that they are specially suitable for flooring and waterproofing, and in the construction of engineering works, machine shops, power stations, boiler rooms, coal bunkers, dock quays, platforms, loading bays, warehouses, factories, packing houses, refrigerating stations, mills, breweries, dairies, garages, stables, bank strong rooms, cinemas, etc., have given every satisfaction. "Ironite" floors retard fire, repel acid and alkali, and resist almost any crush power and tensile strain.

"Ironite" waterproofing gives a waterproof, greaseproof and oilproof finish to basements, cellars, subways, wells, tanks, heating chambers, etc., etc. Cement slurry mixed with "Ironite" for waterproofing concrete, breeze bricks, brickwork and other porous surfaces, can be applied with a brush by unskilled labour.

Messrs. N. S. Kilner & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., 131A, Briggate Leeds, are showing on Stand No. 83, Row E, the "Victory" press, which will be actually producing sand, lime or concrete bricks. Samples of cement asbestos roofing tiles made by this firm will also be on exhibition at the stand.

Messrs. Lips, Ltd., Kingsway House, Kingsway, W.C., Stand No. 196, Row J, are exhibiting an interesting collection of

various types of high-class security locks, both in the lever action and in the cylinder.

In another part of the stand are exhibited models of floor springs and of overhead door checks, the latter extremely small and neat, and in construction as perfect as a door check can be perfect.

Messrs. Lips, Ltd., are also showing three grades of safes and a collection of safe and strong-room door locks. These locks are also in open section, and the accuracy of the workmanship in the making of these locks shows how futile it would be for anyone to attempt to pick or force such a lock.

There is also on view a number of photographs of some of the strong rooms that Lips, Ltd., have erected in various parts of the world, one of which is a circular strong-room door which was the first ever to be erected in Europe.

The Liverpool Adhesive Paste Co., Ltd., 9 Roberts Street, Liverpool, who are the pioneers of the paste powder industry, are showing and demonstrating a full range of their products on Stand No. 302, Row R. Their exhibit includes the following: L.A.P. paperhangers' paste powder (the original (hot-water) paste powder), L.A.P. vegetable size powder, a well-blended vegetable product, clean in use, odourless and pure. It provides a perfect foundation for every requirement, and gives good results on ceilings. Examples of work are on view. L.A.P. (cold-water) paste powder simply requires mixing with cold water to produce immediately a smooth even paste, free from lumps.

The London Warming Co., Ltd., 20 Newman Street, Oxford Street, are showing on Stand No. 227, Row L, a number of anthracite stoves. Mr. Florence has devoted his entire energies to popularising the use of anthracite coal for domestic heating purposes, and a number of stoves exhibited will demonstrate the efficiency of his work.

The "Kooksjoie" will also be exhibited. This is a British made and designed kitchen range of proved quality. The consumption of coal, it is claimed, is very small indeed for the heat generated. The "Wife's Joie" is a gas cooker which, according to the designer, provides a thrifty housewife with a low gas bill in conjunction with efficient service, including an ample hot water supply whilst the process of ordinary cooking is in operation.

Messrs. Marchant Bros., Ltd., Offices and Works, Verney Road, St. James' Road, Old Kent Road, S.E.16, are exhibiting on Stand No. 243, Row N, a number of paint mixing and grinding machines. The combined mixing and straining machine is specially suitable for builders, as it is designed to deal with small quantities. It is also fitted with a detachable stirring gear. Many other useful and eminently practical machines are to be seen on this stand.

Messrs. Richd. Melhuish, Ltd., 50, 51, and 84 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4, are showing on Stand No. 64, Row D, many labour-saving tools. The "Maco" template is a special exhibit worthy of attention and notice. The user is able to take a template of any moulding in a few seconds, thus superseding the old methods of taking dimensions and cutting his mould by hand. Quick-acting screwdrivers are also displayed in many varieties on the stand.

Messrs. Morner & Co., 54A Parliament Street, London, S.W.1, are showing on Stand No. 78, Row D, specimen samples of their P.P.P. flooring, which is unlike ordinary parquet in so far as it is supplied in panels measuring about 2 ft. square. P.P.P. flooring is not a fixture; it can be taken up and laid elsewhere when the owner changes residence. This is possible because the panels are simply nailed down on the existing floors with a few panel pins. The panels are composed of sections of best figured prime Austrian oak, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, arranged in various patterns, glued to a substantial specially constructed double plywood, the whole forming a rigid and non-warpage panel.

Messrs. Naylor Brothers (London), Ltd., Slough, Bucks, Stand No. 166, Row H.—On this stand the Naylor finishes have actually been used. The stand illustrates four rooms.

Many additional specimens of materials and work are to be seen, both on panels showing colour effects and finishes applied to wooden strips showing each coat from the bare wood up. The decorative scheme of the stand itself is worthy of note. The pillars on the stand are finished with "Petrumite," the imitation stone paint; the drawing-room and bedroom are finished in distemper with a stencilled frieze; the dining-room is oak-panelled, finished with the Naylor encaustic copal varnish, giving a flat finish; and the bathroom is papered and the paper varnished with "Suwidec" varnish. The doors and woodwork in the various rooms are finished with "Suwana" enamel, S.E.G. paint, and "One Coat Oak" and "Suwidec" varnishes.

LONDON
120 FENCHURCH ST.
BIRMINGHAM
CANNON PASSAGE, CANNON ST.

TURNERS

TURNER BROTHERS ASBESTOS CO. LTD.

ROCHDALE.

GLASGOW
113 ST. VINCENT ST.



PATENT NO III, 172/17.

TTT ENSURE

CLOSE FITTING LAP JOINTS
MAXIMUM COVERING CAPACITY
MINIMUM SUPER STRUCTURE
WITH
GENERAL EFFICIENCY ON THE ROOF

DATA

STANDARD SIZE 4'0" LONG
X 3'-8" WIDE
NETT WEATHER SURFACE } 3'-6"
PER TILE FIXED } 3'-4"



SPACE YOUR PURLINS AT 3'-6" CENTRES
AND SPECIFY

TURNERS' TRAFFORD
TILES. (ASBESTOS ~ CEMENT)
FOR ROOFING AND SIDING
REG'D. TRADE MARK.
BUY BRITISH GOODS AND REDUCE
UNEMPLOYMENT

Messrs. Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., 54 High Holborn, London, W.C.1, have a number of interesting exhibits displayed on Stand No. 111, Row F. The automatic lavatory lock, which counts and registers the pennies inserted but refuses to accept bent coins, tram tickets, or the like. An electric lift lock is another clever invention. It is fitted with a brake so speedy in action that burning of contacts is practically impossible. The reversible 4-way rim lock, with a double spring live bolt action, specially suitable for carrying heavy furniture, is also shown on the stand. The "Reliable" night latch guard, the working of which is demonstrated on a mounted model, gives complete security against unwelcome intrusions. A self-locking casement stay is another useful invention the object of which is to stop the rattling of casements in the strongest wind. The "Bardsley" oil door check and spring, Bardsley Mark II., embodies many improvements which will at once be appreciated. In addition to these novelties, Messrs. Nettlefolds are also showing an interesting collection of "Skylux" electrical conduit, and cold storage fittings, and examples of their "Perfect" ball hinge as adapted to special purposes such as metal doors for strong rooms, safes, etc., insulated doors for cold storage and fire prevention, and strap hinges for heavy gates or garage doors.

New Geysers, Ltd., 200 City Road, London, E.C.1, exhibit on Stand No. 139, Row G, a number of specimens of the latest "Barralets' Geysers." The "Reliafont" may be fixed anywhere; it is automatic in every respect and will supply hot water to any tap at any distance in the house. The "Two Way" geyser will supply hot water in the scullery, it being fitted over the sink, and by means of an extension will carry hot water to a bath either on the same or upper floor when the sink tap is turned off from operation. The "Supergazer" is specially constructed so as to be able to deal effectively in cases where the water is "hard." The whole of the water channels are accessible for cleaning purposes by merely lifting the outer case. Many other exhibits will arouse interest and demonstrate the fact that this firm spend a considerable time in the study of all kinds of devices which may lead to the advancement and improvement of geysers and their methods of water heating.

Messrs. Thos. Parsons & Sons, 315-317 Oxford Street, London, W.1, Stand No. 132, Row G, are showing examples of Endelline enamel, Endelflat enamel (flat), Lacreite enamel, Unicote flat finish, which is not a distemper, but a distinct innovation in wall decorative material used to great advantage at the Regent Theatre, Brighton. Parsons' gloss paint, Parsons' undercoating body white, Parso-Glaze, Parsons' copal varnishes are also displayed on the stand.

Pinchin, Johnson & Co., Ltd., incorporating Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Head Office: General Buildings, Aldwych, W.C.2.: Stand No. 143, Row G.—The special attraction of this exhibit is the range of Pinchin Johnson super-finishes, comprising Gripon Paint, Satinette Enamel Paint, Deydol Distemper, Hygela Flat Wall Finish and Gripon Supervar. Singly and collectively these materials cater for every modern decorative need. There are also exhibits of other productions, including iron paints, preservatives, stains, polishes, varnishes for all purposes, and indeed every material that the decorating trade requires.

Messrs. E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, London, E.C.1, are exhibiting on Stand No. 159, Row H, the following items:—Fireproof rolling doors, interlocking and curvilinear steel revolving shutters, wood lath revolving shutters in all gauges (there is a working exhibit of shutters on the stand), which gives a very good idea of the simplicity of design and mechanism. Cast and drawn metalwork, joinery and carving for shops, stores, banks, public buildings, etc., are also to be seen, and a special exhibit of the "Kwikserving" system of store equipment. Pollard's patent is also displayed.

The Rawlplug Co., Ltd., Gloucester House, Cromwell Road, S.W.7, exhibit on Stand No. 57, Row D, Rawlplugs, Rawlplug aluminium fittings, recess screws, and Rawlplug tool outfits. Demonstrations in the use of Rawlplugs and recess screws are being given throughout each day. Rawlplug aluminium fittings are very strong, being cast from the finest quality aluminium by a secret process which ensures great strength and a highly polished finish. With regard to Rawlplugs it seems needless to make any special reference; their advantages are so obvious that those who see the demonstrations and have once used them will never return to the old methods.

Messrs. Rhodes Chains, Ltd., 117-119, Stoke Newington Road, London, N.16, Stand No. 290, Row Q.—The stand is constructed of imitation brickwork, and built in are sliding sash windows fitted with the Rhodes patent cog wheels, pulleys and chains. Some of the windows are fitted with the Rhodes new patent solid brass face, rustproof frame, sleeve bearing axle and ball-bearing pulleys. Chains constructed of rustproof steel and phosphor

bronze for use over any grooved wheel pulleys are also displayed on the stand.

Messrs. Roanoid, Ltd., 29, West George Street, Glasgow, are introducing on Stand No. 70, Row D, an entirely new composition manufactured into fittings suitable for domestic use. The material is light, strong, non-inflammable, non-corrosive, and non-conductive. Some very decorative examples of door handles, finger plates, switch plates, etc., etc., are to be seen on the stand, which is well worth a special visit by all those who are lovers of bright artistic colours.

Messrs. Setchell & Sons, Ltd., 26-27 Finsbury Court, E.C.2, are showing on Stand No. 294, Row Q, the products of the Old Delabole Slate Quarries, for whom the exhibitors are the sole distributing agents. These famous slate quarries have been in continuous working for over 360 years, and the slates they produce are renowned all over the world for their durability and charm of colours. The roof of the exhibit is covered on one side with green randoms and on the opposite side with rustic red and green randoms mixed, while on the hip end grey sized slates are used and the small Dormer covered with grey and green peggies. The vertical external walls are covered with green and grey slates in small sizes.

Messrs. Skylux, Ltd., 22 Great Saint Andrew Street, W.C.2, are showing on Stand No. 175, Row J, "Skylux" patent universal window openers and window opening gear. Complete range practically demonstrated on a screen hung with sashes swinging in all directions. Practical proof of the efficiency of the "Skylux" system is furnished by the roof lights in the new Exhibition Hall, Olympia, operated simultaneously by the "Skylux" window opening gear in two spans, comprising a total length of 268 feet, also in the Pillar Hall and Post Office, Olympia. "Skylux" patent portable tube and rod bender, made in three sizes of varying capacity for bending metal tubes and rods cold. Advantages claimed: Portability; efficiency in bending to any required sweep. All bends made on the floor, or if pipe in position, against the wall. No other fixture required. The benders replace the cumbersome and slow machines frequently used. Also useful for taking kinks out of solid rods. Practical demonstrations are constantly being given throughout the day.

Mr. H. C. Slingsby, 95-97 Kingsway, W.C.2, is occupying Stand 53, Row C, and is showing wooden wheelbarrows, hand-carts, extension ladders, swing water barrows, brick skip trucks. Special features are the "Slingsby" single lift elevating truck and the "Slingsby" automatic electric industrial engine.

Messrs. G. R. Speaker & Co., Eternit House, Stevenage Road, London, S.W.6, Stand No. 152, Row G. The exhibit is designed to show how "Eternit" asbestos-cement materials can be used in combination with wood to produce artistic and architecturally attractive and sound effects. The stand externally shows "Eternit" rough-cast sheets, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch thick, fixed on the walls direct to studding at 2 feet intervals. The roof is covered with "Eternit" straight cover red tiles in "Duchess" (approximately 24 inches by 12 inches) and "Ladies" (approximately 16 inches by 8 inches) sizes, fixed to slating battens. Small model roofs are shown about the building demonstrating the "Eternit" diagonal ("C") and honeycomb ("F") system of laying. The internal walls and the ceilings are lined with plain grey "Eternit" sheeting (8 feet by 4 feet by 3-16-inch) nailed direct to studding and ceiling joists, spaced at 2 feet centres. A special, recently introduced feature is the veneered "Eternit" sheeting, which is effectively demonstrated in the small ante-room panelled out with this material to the height of the picture rail, showing the artistic effect that can be obtained with large-size panels.

Messrs. Stoneware, Ltd., Dosthill, near Tamworth, Staffs, are exhibiting on Stand No. 181, Row J, Midland stoneware glazed pipes in various sizes, bends, single and double junctions, gulleys with side and back inlets, 18 in. diameter road gulleys in various depths, and a large quantity of special fittings of all descriptions; engineering bricks, Staffordshire blue and brindle wirecut bricks, blue pressed facing bricks, and specials of all descriptions, including large-size coping, red and blue air bricks, chimney pots, etc.

Messrs. Stooke & Sparks, Ltd., Stratford Ironworks, Forest Gate, London, E.7, are exhibiting on Stand No. 176, Row J, British-made porcelain finished baths, iron ornamental door porches, and the patent "Verdun" brackets for gutters. This gutter bracket provides a full waterway to gutter support from underside air space at back; gutters will not fall, neither will they rust at the back and the fascia board will not rot.

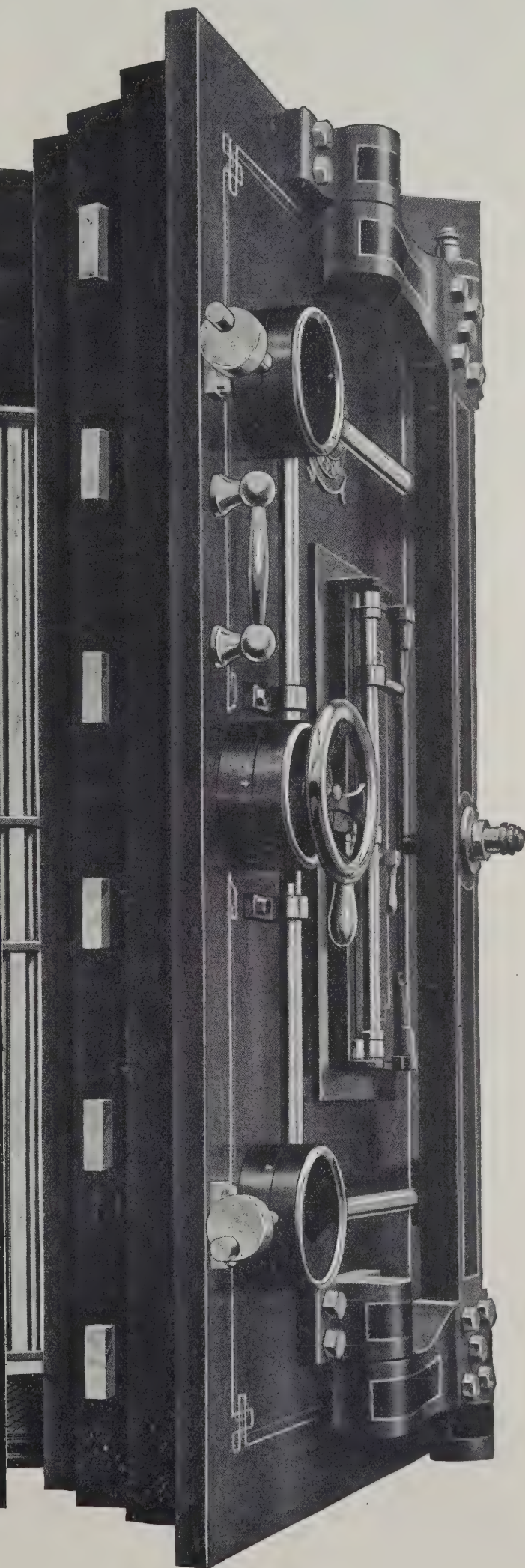
The Elgin Town Council have declined to go on with the present State-aided scheme of municipal housing, and to take up instead the Burgh surveyor's scheme which will permit of £15 rentals against £19.



THIS photograph shows John Tann's Crane-Hinged Watertight Anti-Blowpipe Treasury Door, which is, for all practical purposes, invulnerable. Its construction has been certified by Messrs. Kirkaldy, the great Testing Engineers, as absolutely proof against all mechanical tools and appliances, and against the Oxy-Acetylene Blowpipe.

This door is on view, together with other examples of John Tann's security work, at Olympia during the period of the Building Exhibition.

JOHN TANN LTD
117, NEWGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.1.



Messrs. The Sussex Brick and Estates Co., Ltd., 14 Market Square, Horsham, have displayed on Stand No. 193, Row J, some of their many Weald clay products, chief amongst which are Southwater vitrified engineering or pressed facings, S.B.E.C. hand-made flared reds and mixed coloured kiln stocks. A characteristic of the Southwater vitrified engineering brick is that it is used for heavy engineering constructional and sewerage work, and also for facing purposes. It has a crushing strain of over 509 tons to the square foot; a porosity which is practically speaking nil—viz., 0.83 per cent.—and its rich mottled colour varies through pleasing tints of dark broken red and mixed purple brown.

Messrs. Tuke & Bell, Ltd., 27 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2, are exhibiting on Stand No. 65, Row D, one country house sewage installation, comprising patent semi-septic tank, with its fittings and covers; the installation is capable of dealing with the sewage from an eight-person house. One patent "Ideal" revolving sewage distributor, operated by automatic tippers, and a central container instead of the usual dosing syphon. One patent "Carlton" revolving distributor suitable for municipal schemes; the machine is provided with ball bearings in the crown piece at the top, and roller bearings at the base. One water-softening apparatus complete. One water pressure filter for purifying water for country houses and institutions, the machine being provided with all necessary valves for the cleansing of the filtering media.

Union Glue and Gelatine Co., Ltd., Cransley Works, Garrett Street, Golden Lane, E.C.1, as sole concessionaires for "Union" and "Baeder Adamson" sandpaper products, are including in their exhibit on Stand No. 12, Row B, the "Union" waterproof sandpaper in four distinct varieties for wet rubbing down—flint, garnet, silicon carbide and aluminium oxide. Demonstrations are given throughout each day, and in view of the importance of the question at the present time, the waterproof sandpaper side of this exhibit will be of the greatest interest to the trade. In addition, all the "Union" and "B.A." dry sandpapers are shown for use by hand and on sanding machinery. All "Union" and "B.A." abrasive material is produced in Canada and the U.S.A.

Messrs. Universal Spanner Co., G.W. Railway Depot, Drayton Bridge Road, West Ealing, London, W., are showing on Stand No. 217, Row K, a patent universal ratchet spanner which ratchets on the x or square nuts. With two of these spanners it is possible to fit every nut between the sizes of $\frac{5}{16}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ (across flat) and any make of nut, English or American.

Messrs. Webb & Foulger (Brush Manufacturers), Ltd., 290 Borough High Street, S.E.1, are exhibiting on Stand No. 282, Row P, brushes for all purposes connected with the building industry. Artists and decorators who need special brushes will be glad to know that the exhibitors on this stand are actual manufacturers and therefore will doubtless be glad to meet any special requirements.

Messrs. The Well Fire and Foundry Co., Ltd., 15 Berners Street, London, W.1. The Exhibition Stand, No. 224, Row L, is built of solid oak, walnut, mahogany and whitewood panelling, carried out in period styles. Seven complete fireplaces are exhibited, all designed by architects. Quite a new idea is "The Well Fire" made in canopied dog-grate form. It retains all the essential principles of the "Bowes" patent, is artistic, and lends itself well for smoky chimneys. Rustless armour bright iron fireplaces have become a speciality, and some interesting specimens may be inspected. There is a fine example of a hobbled fireplace composed of old English sand-faced "Tattershall" pressed briquettes of various colours—reds, purples, yellows and mottled, etc. Other fireplaces in stone, marble, faience, etc., complete a most interesting exhibit.

Messrs. John & Edwin Wright, Ltd., Universe Rope Works, Birmingham, Stand No. 231, Row L, are showing examples of their manufactures, which comprise steel wire ropes and hemp ropes and appliances for builders, county council engineers, railways, dock and harbour, gasworks, tramway, waterworks, road and drainage contractors. These consist of complete galvanised flexible wire scaffold lashes, galvanised steel wire cords for window sashes, steel wire rope ladders, steel wire lift ropes, steel wire crane ropes, steel wire slings for lifting purposes; also manila and hemp scaffold lashes, tarred and untarred, in cut lengths or in coil; complete sets of manila and hemp ropes for pulley blocks, lift ropes, sash cords, garden and bricklayers' setting-out lines, pipe yarns, spun yarns.

W. T. Wright & Co., Ltd., Sibley, near Loughborough.—This exhibit, Stand No. 95, Row E, being in the form of a small

building built of 2-inch bricks, shows the possibilities of this firm's manufacture. The three elevations show the different variety of the colour of the bricks manufactured—viz., light red and dark red on one elevation, with Dutch multi-coloured and purple on the other ones respectively. The arches, both circular and pointed, as well as the flat ones, are formed with 1-inch bricks and tiles. The roof, designed to a steep pitch, shows the variety of tiles made—viz., dark reds on one side, with black ones on a gable on the one elevation, with brown on the large slope and purple on a gable on the opposite elevation. The interior contains a fireplace constructed of 1-inch bricks and roofing tiles.



POSTER FOR THE EXHIBITION.
Designed by HUGH W. MARTIN-KAYE.

Building Materials.

Arising out of the presentation of the reports on the Housing Problem which have just been made by representatives of the Building and Building Materials Industries, the Minister of Health last night (Thursday) had a conference with the Committee of Manufacturers and Suppliers of building materials. The Committee assured the Minister of their hearty co-operation and of their desire to take every practicable step within their industry to assist in the solution of the present housing difficulties. Among the various points discussed the Committee drew special attention to the difficulties created by the present shortage of railway wagons. A number of instances were given of serious delays on housing work arising from this cause, even at the present time, and the great importance of this matter in any extended housing scheme was emphasised.—Ministry of Health, April 11, 1924.

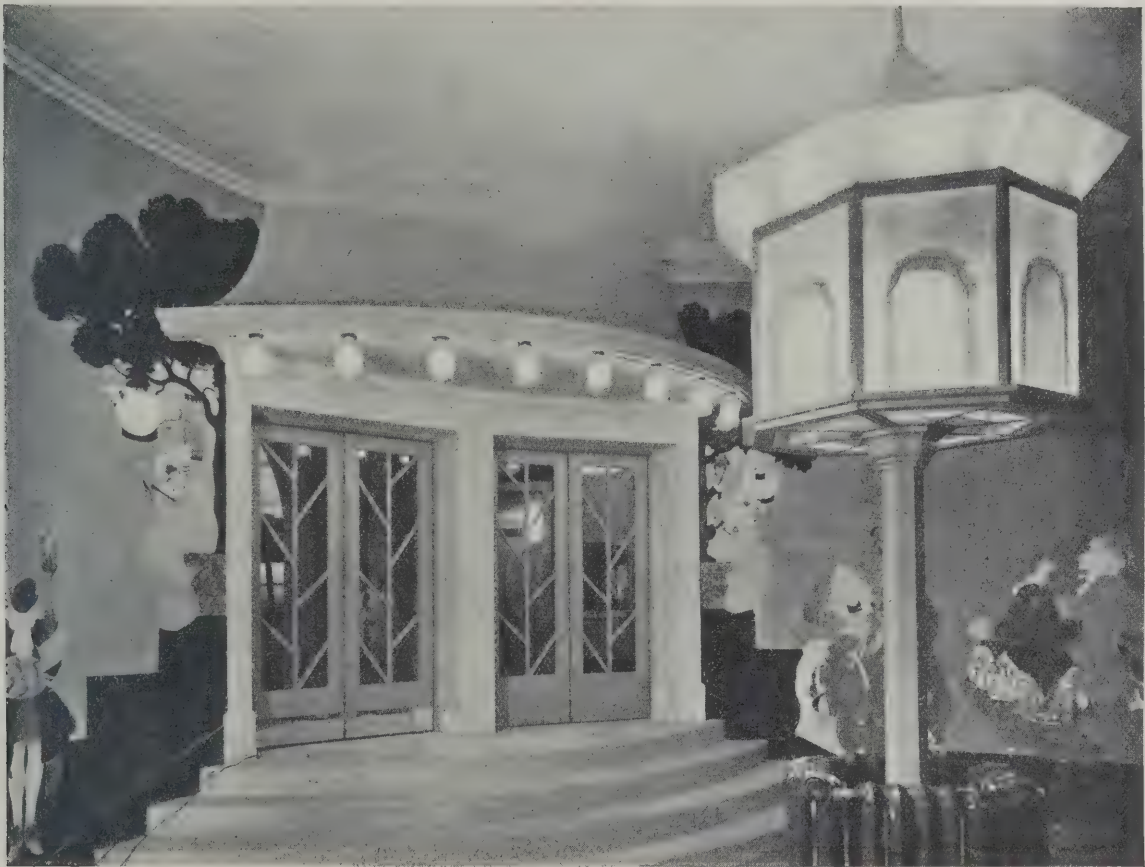
R.I.B.A.

It was decided to approach the Ministry of Health and protest against any steps being taken to restrict general building operations in favour of house-building.

Sir John J. Burnet, A.R.A., and Mr. Walter Tapper were appointed in place of Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., and Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., on the Street Architecture Jury.

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VESTIBULE DECORATIONS, DANCING HALL, DERBY.
G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

The R.I.B.A. Elections.

The official year of the R.I.B.A. unfortunately ends as it began, with the division of the electorate into two distinct camps of opinion, the present Council holding that the unification of the Society of Architects with the Institute is both desirable in itself and a necessary step before a Registration Bill can be promoted with any hope of success and their opponents opposing the absorption of the Society into the Institute because they consider it will lower the status of that body, and believe the amalgamation of the two bodies would not in any way make it easier to obtain a measure of registration. As both sides can quote counsels' opinion supporting their views, the position may be likened to that of the perplexed swain, "How happy could I be with either were the other dear charmer not there." It seems in this dilemma reasonable to take the two opinions as cancelling one another, and to consider the issue to be the desirability or otherwise of the amalgamation of the Society with the Institute *per se*.

But another question has to be considered. Are members of the electorate to "vote the ticket" or to select among the candidates men they would like to see on the Council irrespective of the opinions which they hold on a particular subject?

It was to obviate this dilemma that a referendum or poll has been proposed, and we believe that this is the only satisfactory manner in which a decision in a matter of principle can be reached.

Were the present Council to be re-elected *en bloc* it would in our view be impossible to consider it as necessarily indicating the agreement of the electorate with the views they endorsed. It might indicate such agreement, but on the other hand it might be the result of the desire of the average voter to place on the Council men considered to be good representatives of a calling.

The adoption of a referendum or poll on the other hand completely obviates this. If a poll was held the decision is an impersonal one narrowed down to a specific judgment in the matter referred.

It might very well be that the electorate while rejecting the policy of the present Council would decide at the subsequent election that as men they considered them as the best representatives of a profession.

We do not or should not object to any man holding any views. Mental processes are necessarily dissimilar in two individuals, with the result that any two men may hold diametrically opposed views

without the loss of esteem on either side and they will probably be united on more issues than these on which they are divided.

This question has unfortunately been productive of unreasonable heat, and for that reason we have decided to give expression to no further opinions on the rival policies, which will shortly be placed before the electorate.

But it is open to us to express our regret that it should have been felt impossible to take the direct method of cutting the gordian knot.

We understand that the present Council, like their opponents, are in favour of such an alteration in the Charter and bye-laws as will render the holding of a poll part and parcel of the regular machinery of the Institute. But we go farther than this, for as we hold that the present question is the most controversial issue ever placed before the members of the Institute, we believe the issue would be best determined by a voluntary poll before the Council Election. Our reason for this view is briefly that though the result of such a poll would have no binding power it would clearly determine which of the two views was held by a majority of the electorate.

Few of us, whatever our personal views are, wish to contest the expressed wish of a declared majority. We do not suppose for an instant that the present Council wish to force the decision of a minority on a majority, nor do we believe they would, as representing the architectural profession, lose in reputation were it proved that they had misjudged the trend of feeling of the electorate.

On the other hand, those who are opposed to unification would, if it were clearly proved that they were

in a minority, abandon opposition to the will of that majority. Opposition is in such a case always possible, but we hold it would be the opposition of a small and unreasonable minority which would readily be voted down.

After all, in whatever manner this question is settled exactly the same amount of good architectural work will be done, exactly the same number of chances will be utilised or missed by individual designers. It is these things which are really important to the exponents of an art and the members of a profession, and, if we concede this, should it not make us more tolerant of the sharp differences of opinion which must and will arise in many phases of our lives?

The question narrows down to a very simple one. Do we think the Institute is a stronger or weaker body by keeping to its present numbers or by increasing these numbers at a considerable sacrifice of a standard of quality?

We do not know why certain accounts of Institute matters are inserted in the daily press. The public may or may not be interested in architecture, but can hardly be concerned in a matter of our internal politics. Also the issue is at present an uncertain one. We do not know whether the R.I.B.A. will approve of their Council's proposal or whether the electorate of the Society will approve of their Council's agreement. Might it not be better to wait until something has been settled before communicating details to the public press? Possibly the originators of these articles and paragraphs believe they are, in the cant phrase of the day, "creating a favourable atmosphere," but we doubt whether the attempt is really worth while.

Our Illustrations.

NORMANS, RUSPER, SUSSEX. GUILFORD W. DUDLEY, Architect.

No. 1, DEVONSHIRE PLACE, W.1. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, Architects.

Normans, Rusper, Sussex.

Many difficulties present themselves during the restoration of an ancient and humble dwelling which has served to house people for many generations. It is nearly always needful to make considerable additions, and there is great danger that the new work will overwhelm the old. If such be the unhappy result, the house will have all the special disadvantages which belong both to the very old and very new buildings, with the merits of neither.

The whole question of additions and repairs to old houses deserves far more attention than it usually gets. In some cases, of course, the amount of new work is comparatively trifling and the labour of the architect is chiefly directed to the wise repair of tottering walls and decaying floors and roofs. For such an enterprise two qualifications are necessary—reverence for the old work and a large knowledge of the materials and workmanship which make it what it is. Often the first and most important point to consider is as to how far the additions of later years are to be removed and how far they are to be regarded as an integral part of the structure, and deserving, therefore, of preservation. Very often domestic work of the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries has been ravaged by ignorant "restoration" in the nineteenth.

To the owner of an old house, where additions are to be made which will harmonise with the old work and particular damages are to be repaired, no better advice can be given than that an architect with experience in such matters shall be consulted.

Normans, according to the "History of Sussex," has been in the possession of the Mutton family ever since the days of William the Conqueror.

It was originally a farm-house, with three rooms on the ground floor, and showing to the garden front two rows of casements to

the right and left of the present garden porch. The doorway through this porch was the main entrance hall to the house, and a staircase rose immediately in front to the bedrooms above. The main feature of the original plan was the chimney stack with its two great open fireplaces.

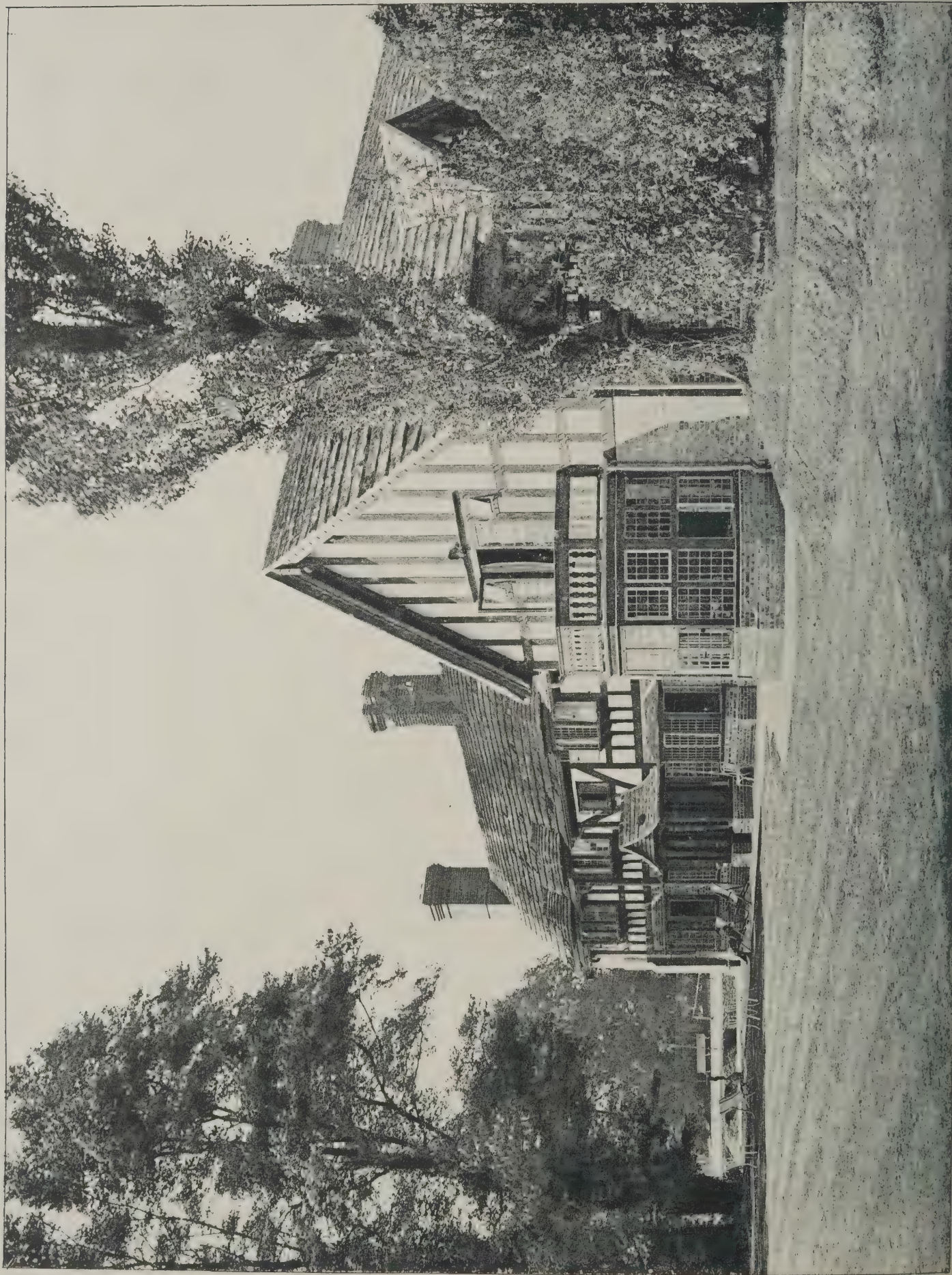
When it came into the possession of Mr. Mutton it was in considerable want of repair, and he made alterations and improvements both externally and internally. The addition of two bulk windows for the parlour and bedroom over, in place of the old-fashioned ones formerly existing, adds greatly to convenience.

While this work was being performed, a portion of the front wall was removed. It was found to consist of straw and sand and small chunks of wood, the art of brick-making apparently not being known to the builders. All the wood used in its erection is oak, and some of the larger beams are old ship timber, but how they got there from the sea nobody knows. Mr. Mutton has in his possession the chest brought over the water by his relative, "the Norman," who first settled in Rusper.

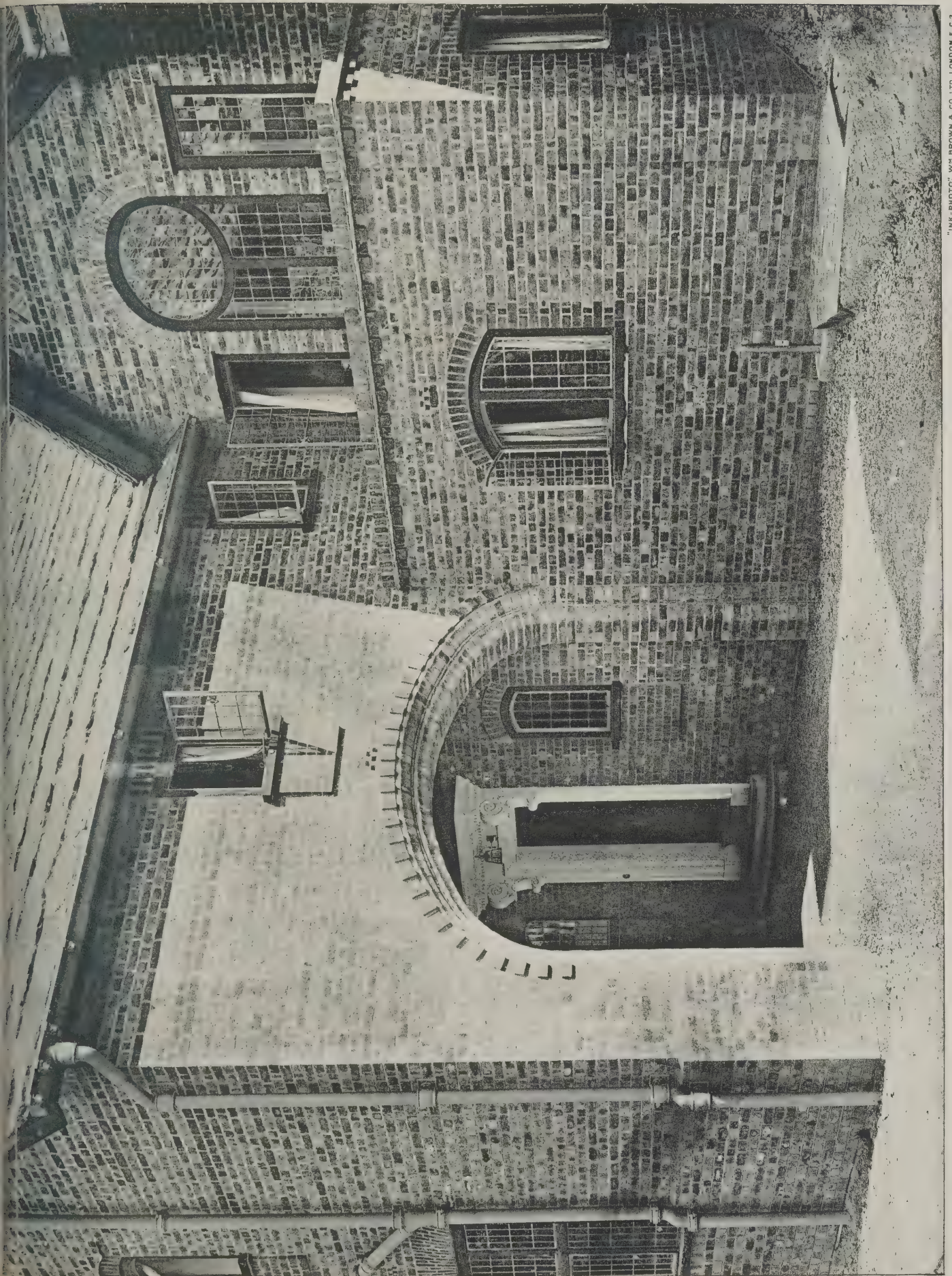
Since Mr. Mutton gave up possession it has passed through other hands, when various alterations were made, namely, the addition of new kitchens, servants' rooms, a sitting-room on the east side of the house, a small entrance porch and hall with staircase, on the north side, the taking away of the old staircase and the casements to the right and left of the garden porch and substituting bay windows, which formed part of the work carried out.

On the north side of the house was a yard bounded on the north side by a row of cow-sheds, on the east by an old half-timbered tithe barn, sadly dilapidated and beyond all repair and used as a cart-shed, and on the east by a wash-house and coal-shed. It was more or less a waste piece of ground used as an enclosure for farm carts, farming implements, etc.

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"NORMANS," RUSPER, SUSSEX.

GUILFORD DUDLEY, ARCHITECT.

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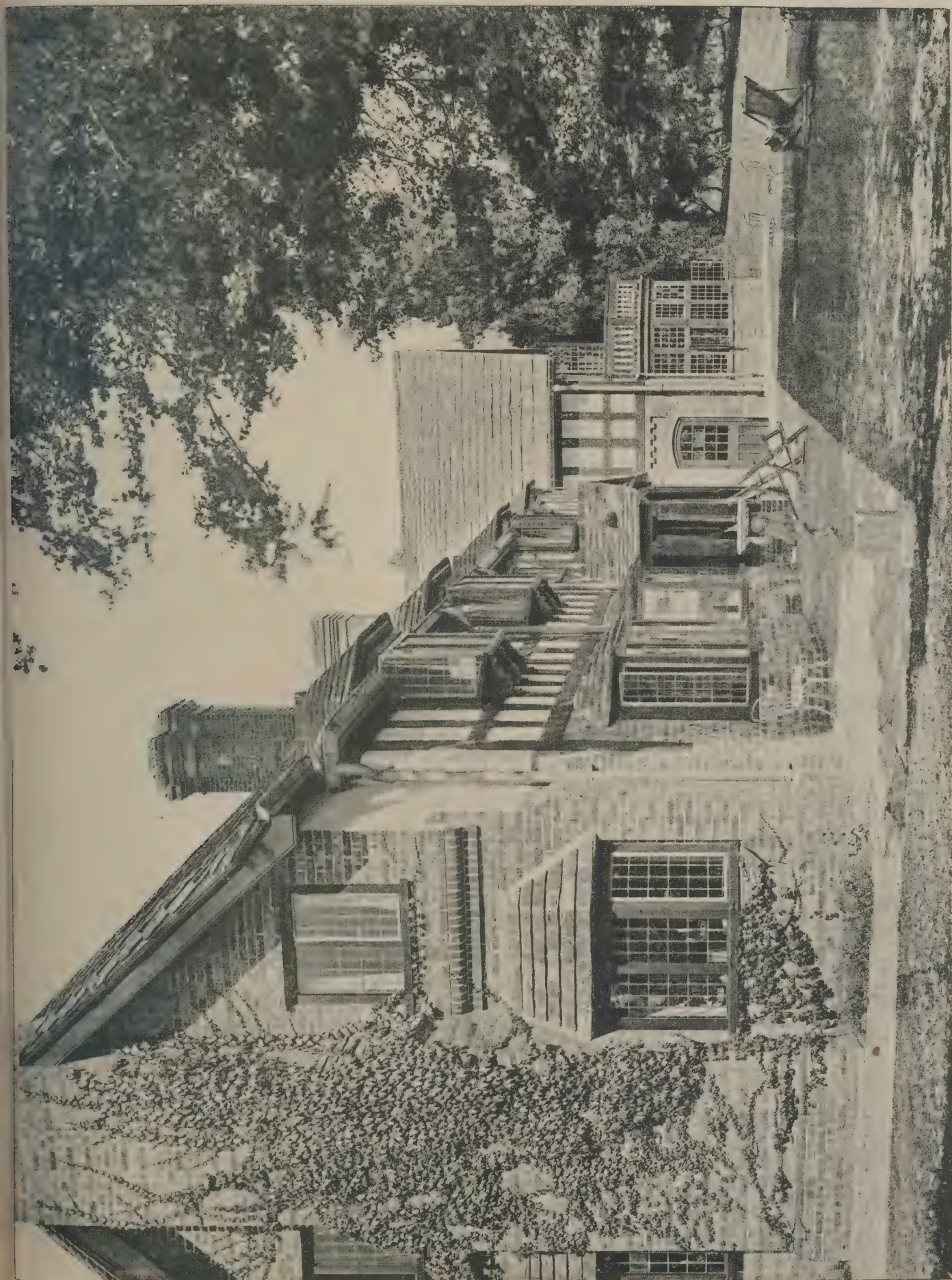
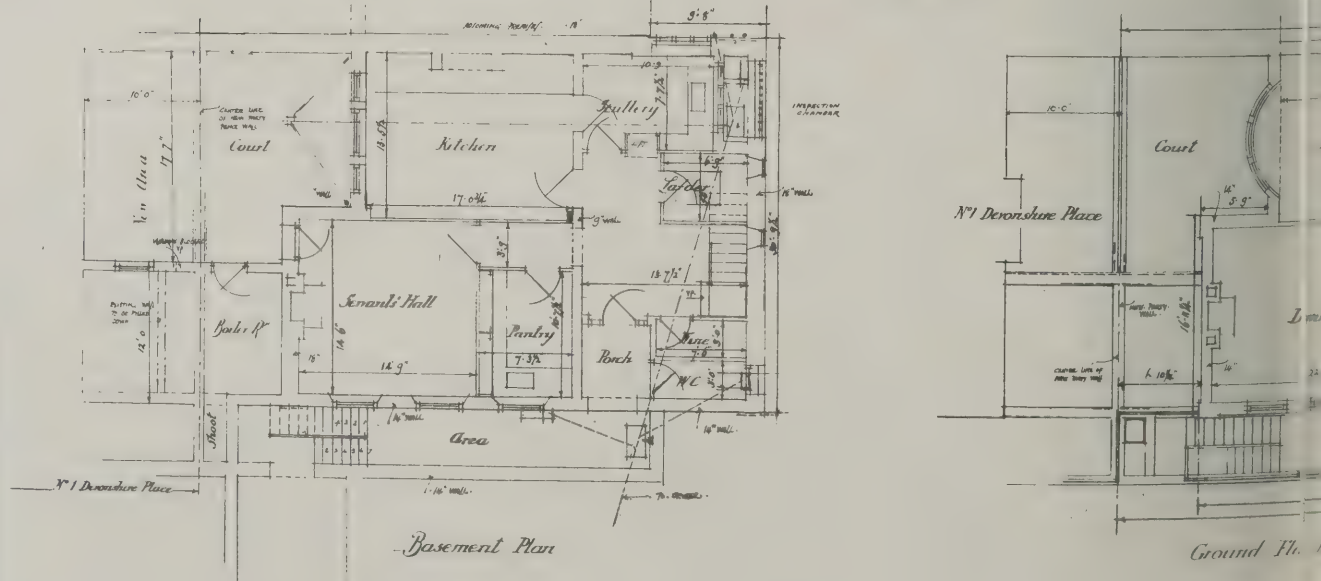
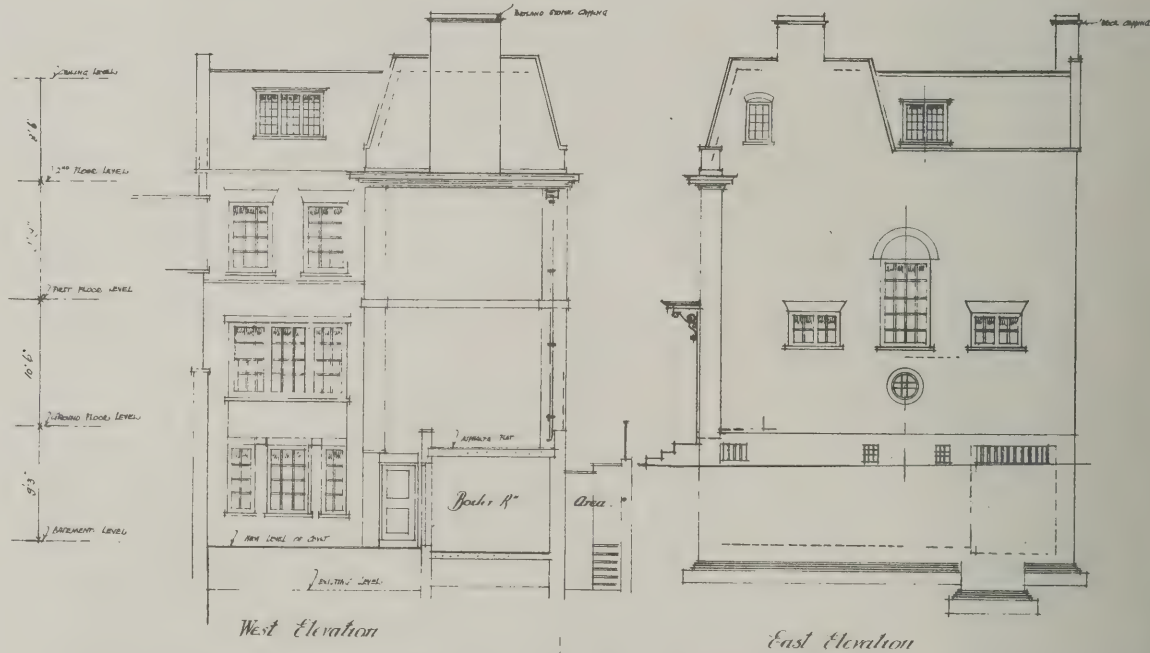
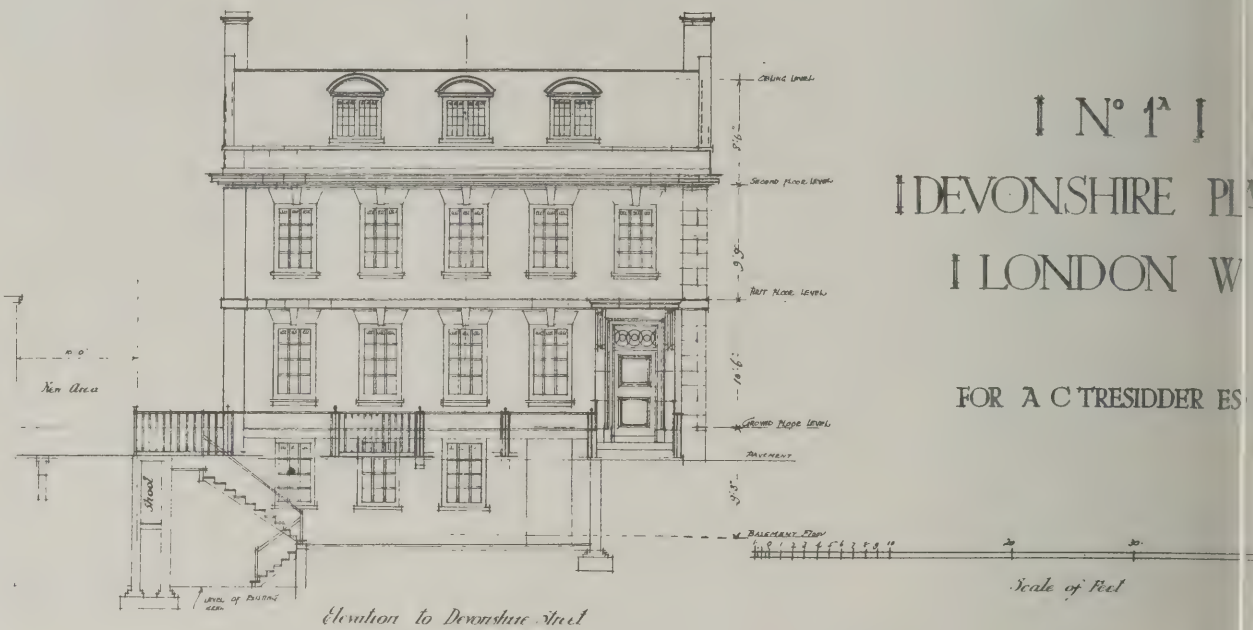


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NORMANS, RUSPER, SUSSEX.
GUILFORD DUDLEY, ARCHITECT.

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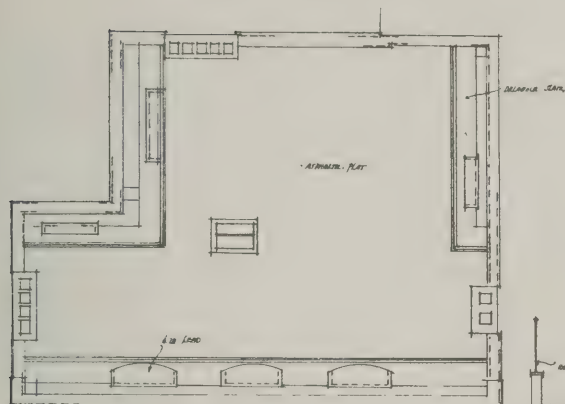
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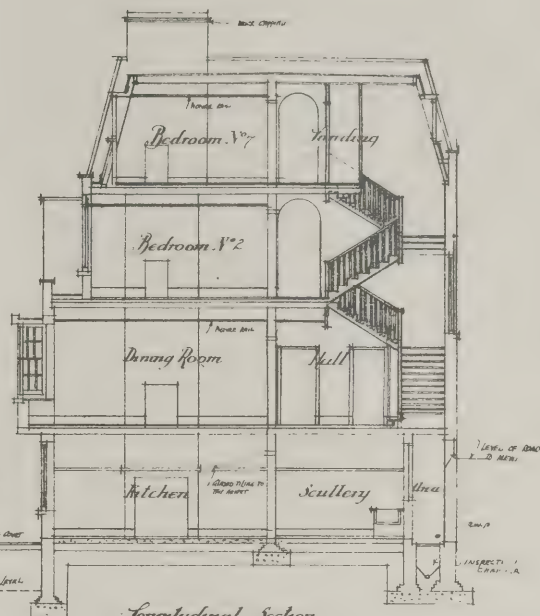
ACE LONDON. W.1.
HUGES, ARCHITECTS.

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Signed by the said

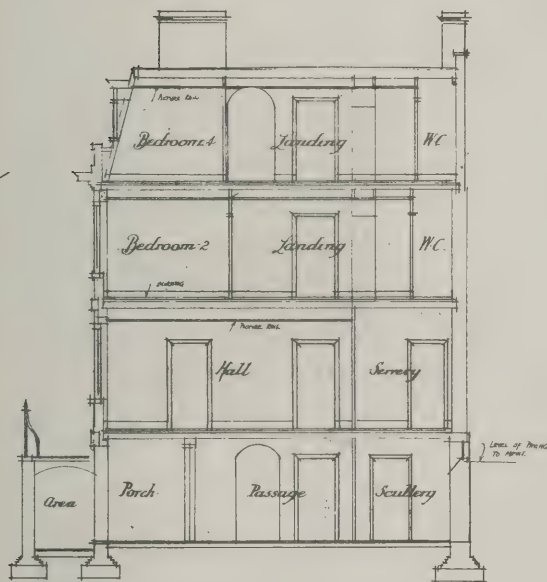
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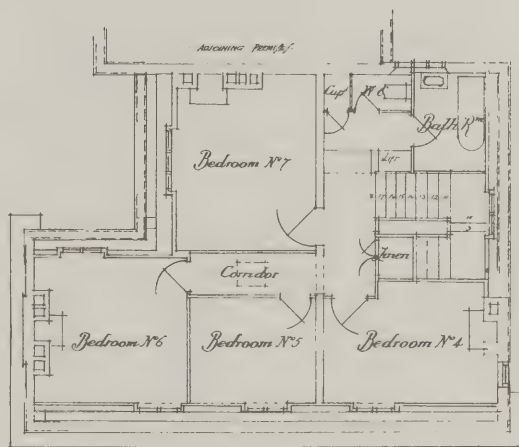
Roof Plan



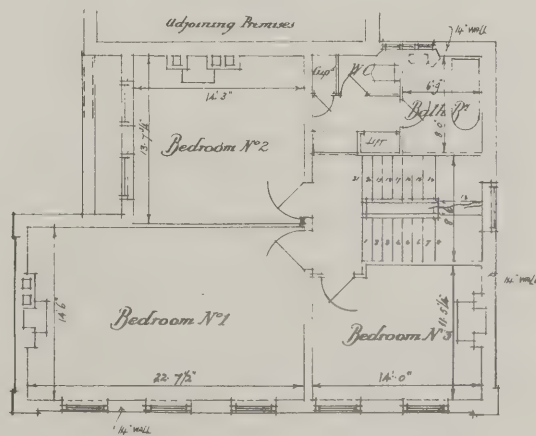
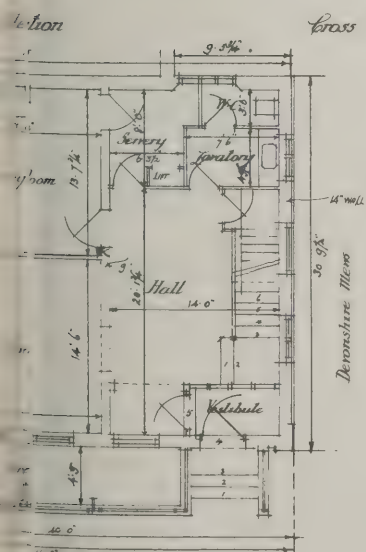
Longitudinal Section



cross section



Second Floor Plan



First Floor Plan

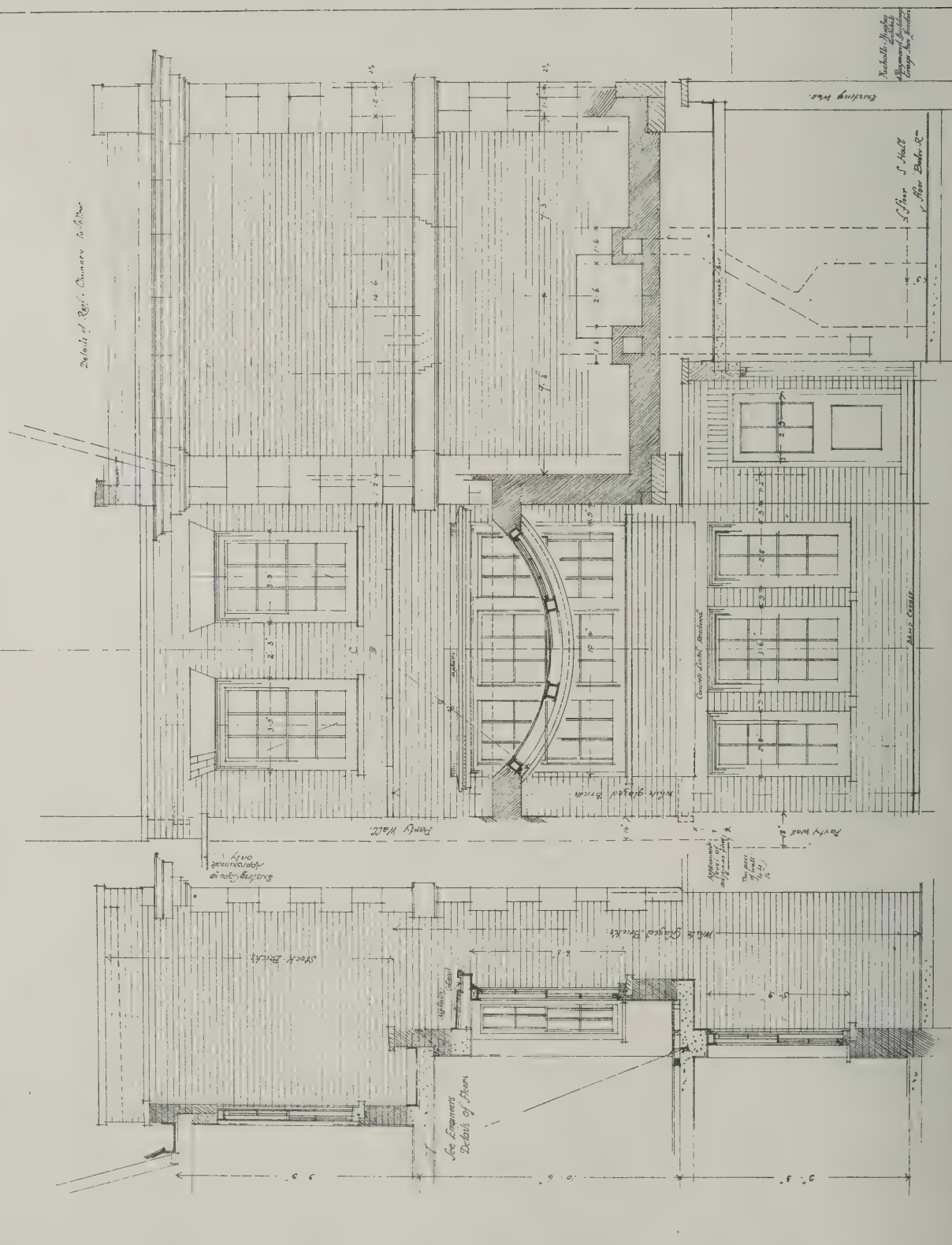
Nicholls & Hughes
Architects
4 Raymond Buildings
Cortney Inn London

"PHOTO-LITHO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD LONDON, E C 3

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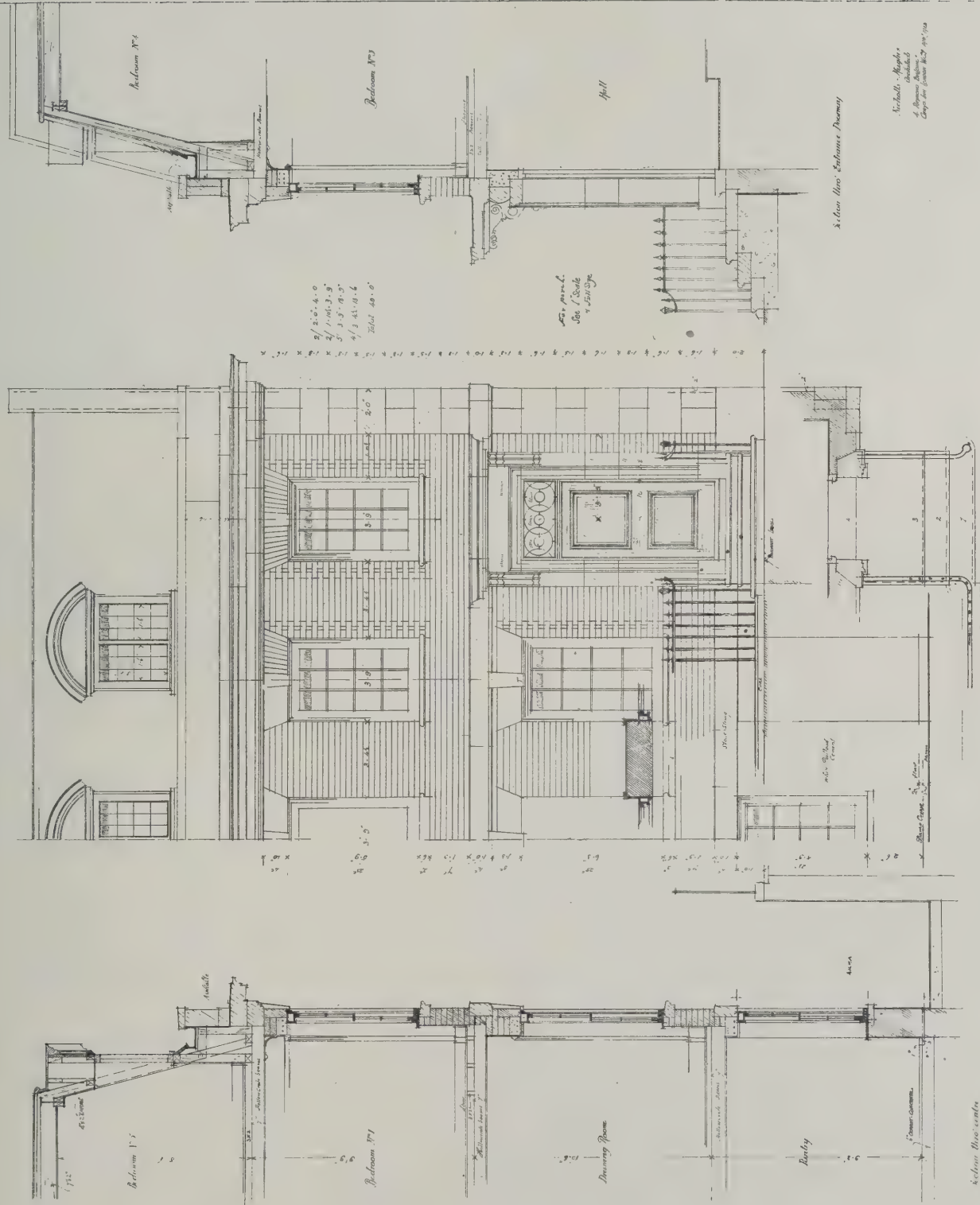
$\frac{1}{2}$ Detail of Nest Elevation and Section thro' Dining Room Bay



11 NORTH DEVONSHIRE PLACE W1

Half inch detail of Front Elevation

Drawing No. 2



1A, DEVONSHIRE PLACE, LONDON, W.1.

MESSRS. NICHOLLS & HUGHES, ARCHITECTS.

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DANCING HALL, DERBY.
DECORATION IN MAIN VESTIBULE. G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

The situation is certainly one of its charms. The house is most delightfully situated on a gentle eminence, a short distance from the town of Ruspur, and it commands views of the most picturesque scenery in the county of Sussex, including East Grinstead Church, Isfield Church, Horley Church, Crawley Church, and several gentlemen's seats, which peep out amidst the foliage of the forest trees, and make the whole scene a number of parks and pleasure grounds.

In front of the house is one of the most beautiful and extensive views that abound on the hilly parts of the Weald. When the present owner acquired Normans he decided on extensive alterations and additions to the house and gardens, which included the removal of the old tithe barn, etc., and the sitting-room, which was not in keeping with the old part of the house, and the conversion of the yard into an entrance court.

The additions made by Mr. Dudley were a new wing to the east of the old house, which included an entrance archway, sitting hall and billiard room, and a new servants' wing on the west side at right-angles to and adjoining the house.

The design and planning of the east wing had to be carefully considered, as it was to harmonise with the south elevation, the horizontal lines of the half-timbered work, the gutter and ground levels, also the first floor level, were to be maintained, and as the height of the existing dining-room was only 7 feet 9 inches to the underside of the oaken ceiling, these conditions and requirements necessitated the sinking of the floor of the whole of this wing to allow a suitable height of 10 feet for the billiard room and sitting hall being obtained, which has given opportunity for effect. An idea of its general design can be gathered from our picture of the south-east corner, as it is seen from the garden.

The entrance archway is approached from the north through the court-yard, and from the east along a beautiful winding drive where there is enough level ground for a carriage turn. Passing under the archway on the left is the main entrance doorway into the sitting hall with its oak wainscoting on the walls, while overhead oak beams and rafters, taken from one of the old stable buildings, support the floor of the room above, as is well rendered by the photograph. The chimneypiece, built of narrow bricks and roofing tiles, with Hopton-Wood stone jambs and head, contains an old fire-back dated 1653, and basket-grate. The carved panel over the mantelpiece is of Japanese work.

To the right the oaken stairway fronts us, but we turn to the left into the billiard room. It has much the same features as the hall, but in place of wainscoting an oak dado is fixed 3 feet 6 inches in height and with cream-coloured distemper on the walls. Above, three massive oak beams with chamfered edges, removed from the old tithe barn, help to support the floor of the room above. The

three transomed bays, the one on the south side being five-sided, shed a flood of light into the room without in any way detracting from the charm and restful quite of the exterior composition. The window farming is simple and unmoulded, the lead glazing correct in character, while the hinges, stays and fastenings remind us that Mr. Dudley is one of our architects to strive for a return to the simple yet beautiful domestic wrought ironwork of our ancestors.

Returning to the hall. Up the steps which form the first three risers of the stairway we are on the existing ground floor level of the old house, with a long corridor 5 feet 6 inches wide in front of us, and a circular bay at the end, where a delightful peep of the garden, alive with interest, formal and natural, botanic and architectural, can be obtained.

Half-way down this corridor on the left is an archway of square oak posts and ceiling beam, which once formed part of the entrance hall and staircase of the old house already described. Passing under the archway we turn to the left into the dining-room. It is a typical old-fashioned cottage or farm-house room of the district, with its Jacobean oak wainscoting on the walls and massive oak beams and rafter overhead. The main oak beam, 12 inches by 15 inches deep, was once the keel-plate belonging to one of the old wooden walls of England, and the filling-in pieces to the mortise holes where the ribs projected to form the sides of the hull can be distinctly seen in the accompanying picture. The illustration shows the great size of the fireplace, with its four niches and chimney-seats, and above is a priest's hiding chamber and escape to the bedroom above. The wide opening tempted smoke into the room and rendered necessary a drastic curtailment, which has been charmingly effected by the canopy of local stone found on the site. Only the excellent choice of the bits of antique furniture, the general and careful treatment of the apartment and the ampleness of the bay windows, show us that the room, though old, belongs also to to-day.

Continuing along the corridor on the south side are the study and parlour, which contain most of the forms and characteristics which they possessed when the house was built.

On the right are the kitchen, scullery, etc., and the new domestic wing, which is the only other considerable structural addition made by Mr. Dudley.

Mounting the stairs we come upon bedrooms that have the same old-world spirit, wisely combined, however, with two well-fitted bathrooms. The servants' bedrooms over the kitchen are entirely shut off from the family quarters.

The bedrooms have red brick and tile fireplaces and hearths, and basket-grates, with fire-clay cheeks and backs, which have



PANEL DECORATION IN CORRIDOR,
DANCING HALL, DERBY.

proved to be most economical, both with regard to labour-saving in cleaning and fuel consumption.

The bathrooms have dados and floors of vitreous glass; the private one, which is situated over the entrance archway, is in two shades of blue, and the guests' bathroom in the new west wing in two shades of mauve.

The average housewife is painfully aware of the fact that she has not half the cupboard accommodation she ought to have at her disposal, and very few houses possess such conveniences, especially a room with shelves and cupboards set apart for the storage of blankets and sheets, though how convenient this accommodation is may be realised from the following description of the one designed especially for this house. The cupboard arrangement extends along one side of a narrow room. It is 12 feet 8 inches long, and 8 feet 6 inches high, and is designed in three sections and in two tiers, the upper part projecting 2 feet 2 inches from the face of the wall, the lower part 2 feet 11 inches, and being 3 feet 1 inch high. Each section has folding doors, with aluminium furniture and butts. Two inches from the top of the lower part of the centre section is a teak-framed slide on which to fold up the blankets, sheets, etc., before storing. The interior of the cupboard has tiers of shelving with partitions of deal battens spaced $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch apart. In the frieze and in the base are panels of 1 inch square holes for ventilation. This cupboard is heated with four $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pipes from the domestic supply, the pipes being placed in the hollow spaces between the floor and the lower shelf. The whole is painted in white enamel.

Charming as is the interior of the house, there is much to entice outside. The individual features are very small; but that is right, and they strike one at once as perfectly in scale with the site and with the building. They are, moreover, so quietly treated that they do not assert their individuality, but melt into general unity full of pleasant harmony. The pictures speak for themselves, and little description is needed. The garden porch, in real Sussex oak and elm boarding in the gable, opens on to a stone-paved pathway which borders three sides of the house, and gives an air of amplitude at this point. A pergola covered

with ramblers helps to screen the windows of the servants' quarters in the new west wing.

A wall, built of odd bricks, forms the two sides of the entrance court, and through an opening adjoining the engine house, on a lower level and before the road to Rusper is reached, is a sunk garden, enclosed in a low retaining wall of local stone, which was once a moat. Through a breach in the trees is seen an extensive and exquisite landscape.

On the west side of the house is an ample piece of ground, where tennis lawn and vegetables have been accommodated, and where there is, in the woodland fringe, a pleasant wild garden.

Here there is a "multum in parvo" indeed, concentrating in itself the most varied amenity, and yet so well managed that it gives no impression of overcrowding. A commodious habitation and a site that convinces one that our native land, with all its faults and limitations, is the sweetest and pleasantest place in all the world in which to dwell.

The following contractors and sub-contractors executed work in connection with the above building operations.

The general contracts were Messrs. James Longley & Co., contractors, Crawley, Sussex; the wood block floors were laid by Messrs. Fenning & Co., Ltd., Palace Wharf, Rainville Road, Hammersmith, W.6; Messrs. Lockerbie & Wilkinson (Birmingham), Ltd., 115 Victoria Street, S.W.1, supplied the rain water pipes and gutters; the electric light wiring and fittings were carried out by Messrs. Walter Mossop & Co., 52 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.; the heating installation was executed by Messrs. Rosser & Russell, Ltd., 37 Duke Street, W.1; Messrs. John Bolding & Sons, Ltd., Grosvenor Works, Davies Street, W.1, were responsible for the sanitary fittings; Messrs. Boby & Co., Ltd., Brookfield House, 62, 64 Brook Street, Hanover Square, W.1, installed their water softener plant; the metal casements were supplied by Messrs. C. E. Welsteads, Ltd., 151 St. James Road, Croydon, and the general ironmongery by Messrs. J. Gibbons, Ltd., 15 Fisher Street, W.C.1, and Messrs. Yannedis & Co., 25 Theobald's Road, W.C.1.

GUILFORD W. DUDLEY, Architect.



DANCING HALL (CONVERTED CORN EXCHANGE), DERBY. G. G. WORNUM, Architect.



MESSRS. BRINSMEAD'S NEW PREMISES, WIGMORE STREET, W. MESSRS. BENNETT & HOSSACK, Architects.

Royal Institute of British Architects.

9, Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London, W.1.

April 14, 1924.

DEAR SIR,—We, the Council of the R.I.B.A. and Members of the Allied Societies' Conference, have much pleasure in enclosing a full statement of the Council's proposals for dealing with the question of registration and consolidation of the profession.

It is proposed that the R.I.B.A. should absorb the Society of Architects. The proposal is supported by most of the leaders of the profession, because of its immense value in dealing with all matters on which it is desired to influence public action, apart from and in addition to the question of Registration. Upon the latter aspect of the proposal we have, on the advice of our Parliamentary Agents, consulted Mr. Edward Shortt, K.C., late Home Secretary, and his opinion is that that the dissolution of the Society of Architects and the admission of its members into the R.I.B.A. would immensely strengthen the hands of the R.I.B.A. in the promotion of a Registration Bill. "Coming to Parliament," he says, "as they would for the protection of the public as well as for their own better regulation, they would speak with the united and unanimous voice of the whole profession. I am of opinion that their chances of success would be infinitely greater than they would be in present circumstances."

In order that members may fully realise the position, the following statement is given of the facts upon which the Council's policy is based:—

1. As a Council we declined, in the interests of the R.I.B.A., to consider a registration policy which does not leave the R.I.B.A. supreme as the registration authority.

2. The Council of the Society of Architects could not see their way to support an R.I.B.A. Bill on these terms, but offered to consider the dissolution of their Society and the absorption of their members by the R.I.B.A. as an alternative.

3. As it was obvious that no success could be achieved if an organised body of Architects, such as the Society, numbering some 1,700 members, were not in agreement with our proposals, we agreed to consider absorption, providing the position of our examined classes could be secured and no new class of members created.

4. The terms now submitted embody these vital principles. The R.I.B.A. will then occupy the undisputed position of being (with its Allied Societies) the only

organised body of Architects in Great Britain, the Associate class still retaining its distinction of being composed solely of men who have passed our examinations.

5. The class which will be mainly increased in numbers is the Licentiate class. This is a dying class, and by the effluxion of time will cease to exist altogether, leaving the R.I.B.A. with Fellows and Associates only, and no further admittances to membership without examination.

In order not only that every member may have an opportunity of his expressing his opinion upon them, but that the Institute may have, in addition to an agreed policy, a Council in entire sympathy with it, the proposals are put forward as the definite policy of this Council at the forthcoming election and the Council will abide by the result of the voting.

The Licentiates who have no vote will be invited to express their opinion because their class is the one chiefly affected.

Thus a referendum in the only form at present available under the R.I.B.A. Charter and Bye-laws will in effect be held, and the real feeling of the members obtained.

In January last the body known as the "Defence League" issued to members a circular purporting to contain the gist of these proposals. At that date negotiations were in progress with the Society of Architects, and the President of the R.I.B.A. asked members to suspend judgment until these were completed and our proposals formulated.

As will now be seen, the circular being based on hearsay, was inaccurate in many particulars, and any judgment formed on it requires to be revised in view of the complete and full information it is now possible to furnish.

Finally, we desire to add our tribute to the generous and friendly spirit in which the Society of Architects have met us in the prolonged negotiations which have resulted in so favourable an arrangement. Their President has further assured us that no special effort will be made to increase their membership during the progress of these negotiations.

That members of the Royal Institute will support these proposals and take a broad and statesmanlike view of the situation is the earnest wish of the Council and of the members of the Allied Societies' Conference whose signatures are appended to this letter.

Yours very truly,

(Signed by all Members of the present Council and of the Allied Societies' Conference.)

The Society of Architects.

28 BEDFORD SQUARE,
W.C.1.

TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.

The enclosed is a précis of the main lines of the agreement come to by the Councils of the Institute and the Society on Registration and Amalgamation. It is being issued to the members of the R.I.B.A. and also to those of the Society for their information only, and not for the purpose of discussion at this stage of the proceedings. It has been arranged with the R.I.B.A. Council that, after the forthcoming election in June next, particulars of the scheme in detail will be submitted first of all to the general body of members of the Institute by the Council of that body. If the scheme is approved and subsequently confirmed by the general body of the R.I.B.A., it will afterwards be presented to the general body of the Society of Architects, with whom, therefore, the final decision will rest.

It is earnestly hoped by the Council of the Society that until the scheme in detail is placed before the members for final consideration, they will refrain from Press criticism of the proposals or from taking any other steps which may tend to prejudice the issue or in any other way to embarrass the R.I.B.A. or prejudice the consideration by that body of the scheme on its merits. The Council of the Society realises that this request may put a severe strain upon the loyalty of the general body of members, but it has every reason to suppose that members will continue to demonstrate the confidence which they have hitherto reposed in the Council, by acquiescing in this request made in the interests of all concerned. The Council undertakes that if and when the time arrives, members of the Society will be invited to express their views on the subject and to record their votes personally and by proxy as provided under the regulations.

There are indications that any criticism by members may be directed chiefly to the proposal to transfer them to a class of "Licentiate" within the Institute, but this class of "Licentiate" must not be confounded with the present one, the members of which have no corporate existence within the Institute. The new class of "Licentiate" are to have full corporate membership of the R.I.B.A., and voting powers on all subjects, including the Charter and By-laws, and the right to describe themselves as Chartered Architects and to use the affix "L.R.I.B.A." The Society's proposal was for the new class to be described as "Members" of the Institute, but inasmuch as the term "Member" in a general sense would include Fellows,

Associates and Licentiatees of the R.I.B.A., its use could not be restricted to one class of membership. There are some who consider the designation "Licentiate" as suggestive of higher qualifications than that implied by "Member."

It must be borne in mind by members of the Society that the one and only object of the Council of the Society in agreeing in principle to amalgamation with the Institute is for the purpose of accomplishing the main object for which the Society was founded and is being carried on, viz., the attainment of Statutory Registration of Architects. The Council of the Society is of the opinion that such amalgamation is a necessary preliminary to Registration, and that the chance of obtaining Statutory Registration will be enormously strengthened and increased by amalgamation with the Institute, which is itself pledged to pursue the same object and has given an undertaking to the Society, in the event of the amalgamation taking place, to promote a Registration Bill and to pursue it until it becomes an Act.

In this connection the attention of members of the Society is called to the appendix of the enclosed particulars, giving the opinion of the eminent K.C., Mr. Shortt, on the question.

The Council trusts that if and when the time comes that the Members of the Society are called upon to make a decision in regard to amalgamation, they will regard the process of absorption merely as a means to an end, and that any who for personal reasons might, in normal circumstances, have felt disinclined to accept the proposed terms of transfer will realise that they are the members who, if they are far-seeing and generous enough to put aside personal feelings and support the Council, will be amongst those without whose aid it would have been impossible for the Society to take advantage of the opportunity now afforded it of accomplishing the main object for which it was founded.

It is hoped that the Members of the Society will realise that during the long and protracted negotiations with the R.I.B.A. Council on the subject, every question on points of detail which it seems possible could be raised by Members of the Society has been exhaustively discussed and the matter considered from every conceivable point of view. In these circumstances, and at this stage of the proceedings, they will be rendering a great service to the Society if they will refrain as far as possible from criticisms and enquiries which would involve the Society in explanations on points of detail which may, after all, not arise.

E. J. PARTRIDGE,

President.

April 14, 1924.



MESSRS. BRINSMEAD'S NEW PREMISES, WIGMORE STREET, W. MESSRS. BENNETT & HOSSACK, Architects.

A précis of the Proposals agreed between the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Council of the Society of Architects for the Amalgamation of the two bodies.

The Councils of the Royal Institute and the Society of Architects are agreed, after a careful review of the situation from all sides, that the interests of the profession as a whole will be best served by the amalgamation of the two Societies and a return to the position of 40 years ago, when the Society broke away from the R.I.B.A. on the Registration question. They are further agreed that, if terms satisfactory to Members of both Societies can be settled, such an amalgamation will undoubtedly strengthen the hands of the profession in dealing through one representative Society instead of two, with such questions as (1) Registration; (2) education and the very complete system of schools which has grown up throughout the Empire; (3) the control of Public Competitions; (4) Professional practice; (5) in all negotiations with Government and Public bodies; (6) questions which continually arise between the profession and the public which it serves.

Both Councils realise that no terms can be arranged which will be equally agreeable to everyone, and that the members of each Society must make some concession to the common good. Such an arrangement could only be suggested if, as both Councils believe, it is for the ultimate good of the profession and the public. With this object in view the following terms have been agreed upon by the two Councils after much anxious consideration and in due course will be recommended to the Members of both Societies for acceptance.

TERMS OF AMALGAMATION.

The Terms of Amalgamation conveniently group themselves under three main headings, and are to be embodied in a document agreed to by both Councils and circulated to the members of both bodies.

- A. Membership.
- B. Action after amalgamation.
- C. Finance.

(A) Membership.

- 1 (a) *Fellows of the Society* (approximately 170*) to become *Fellows of the R.I.B.A.*
- (b) *Members of the Society* (approximately 980*), to become *Licentiates of the R.I.B.A.* with full corporate powers and the power of voting on all subjects, and the right to use the affix *L.R.I.B.A.* and the title "Chartered Architects."
- (c) *Licentiates of the Society* (approximately 180*), to become *Students of the R.I.B.A.*, with privilege of becoming *Licentiates of the R.I.B.A.* as and when they are qualified to do so (see para. 3).
- (d) *Students of the Society* (approximately 130), to become *Probationers of the R.I.B.A.*

NOTE.—Provision to be made for members of the Society who have passed the Society's Membership Examination, some 150 in all, to qualify for Associateship of the R.I.B.A. if they wish to do so on passing a Special Examination in design and in those subjects which are not included in the Society's examination.

- 2. The names of the Retired Members of the Society to be printed in a separate list in the *R.I.B.A. Kalendar* and they are to enjoy the privileges of Retired Members of the *R.I.B.A.*
- 3. The qualifications to enable *Licentiates of the Society* to pass from the class of *Students of the R.I.B.A.* to the class of *Licentiates of the R.I.B.A.* to be drafted by the Council of the Society to correspond with the qualifications now in force to enable them to become *Members of the Society.*
- 4. *Licentiates of the R.I.B.A.* to be granted full corporate powers with full voting powers on all subjects with the use of the affix *L.R.I.B.A.*

* The remainder of the Fellows, Members and Licentiates of the Society are already Members or Licentiates of the *R.I.B.A.*

5. All Fellows, Associates and Licentiates to be entitled to use the title "Chartered Architect" if they wish to do so, in addition to the appropriate *R.I.B.A.* affix.

6. The Society undertakes to cease approving candidates for membership as soon as the two general bodies have ratified the terms of the amalgamation.

7. Further, as these proposals entail alterations to the *R.I.B.A.* Charter and Bye-Laws, it is intended to ask the Privy Council to authorise the following additional alterations at the same time, which it is believed will facilitate the working of the Institute machinery, i.e., proposals—

(a) To ensure a more adequate representation upon the Council of each corporate class; (b) to effect continuity of a Council's policy by limiting the number of its members put up for re-election annually; (c) to increase the representation of the Allied Societies, including those overseas, on the *R.I.B.A.* Council; (d) to enable important questions of Institute policy to be submitted to a referendum of all members in lieu of a General Meeting in London only. NOTE.—The following information is given to enable members to see the effect of these proposals upon the memberships of the *R.I.B.A.*

Before Amalgamation.		After Amalgamation.	
Approximate Membership of the R.I.B.A.		Approximate Membership of the Society of Architects (October, 1923.)	
Fellows ..	960	Fellows ..	200
Associates ..	2,350	Members ..	1,137
Licentiates ..	1,380	Licentiates ..	167
Students ..	293	Students ..	130
Probationers ..	500	—	—
Total ..	5,483	Total ..	1,634
		F.R.I.B.A.	1,130
		A.R.I.B.A.	2,350
		L.R.I.B.A.	2,347
		Students	
		R.I.B.A.	455
		Probationers	
		R.I.B.A.	630
		Total	6,912

It is estimated that at the end of 10 years, at the normal rate of increase of the Associates and decrease of the Licentiates by wastage, the figures will be approximately : Associates, 3,000 ; Licentiates, 1,500.

No provision is made for the admission to the *R.I.B.A.* of any unattached architects other than the above except through the ordinary channels, but it is hoped that many may be induced to join their local Societies allied to the *R.I.B.A.* and thereby assist towards the complete unity of the profession.

(B) Action after Amalgamation.

- 1. The *R.I.B.A.* undertakes, immediately upon the ratification of the terms of amalgamation, to appoint a Registration Committee upon which the Society shall be equally represented with the *R.I.B.A.* to draft and carry through its various stages the Registration Bill until it becomes an Act.
- 2. The Society undertakes, when the amalgamation is completed and the transfer of members effected, to begin to take the necessary steps for the winding-up and dissolution of the Society.

(C) Finance.

- 1. The Members of the Society of Architects joining the *R.I.B.A.* will not be required to pay entrance fees. The subscriptions for all members of the various classes of the *R.I.B.A.* to be as follows :—
 - Fellows, £5 5s. per annum.
 - Associates and Licentiates, £3 3s. per annum.
 - Students, £1 1s. per annum.
- 2. The surplus of assets over liabilities of the Society was estimated at the last audit in 1923 at £7,000. It is estimated that if the scheme is carried through the *R.I.B.A.* will have an additional income of between £5,000 and £6,000 a year.

APPENDIX.

OPINION OF MR. EDWARD SHORTT, K.C.

On the advice of the Parliamentary Agents of the R.I.B.A. the opinion of Mr. Edward Shortt, K.C., late Home Secretary, was obtained.

The case submitted to Mr. Shortt, and his opinion upon it are appended:—

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

MEMORANDUM FOR OPINION OF COUNCIL.

1. The architectural profession demand that a serious attempt should be made to obtain the Statutory Registration of qualified Architects.

2. At present there are two independent professional organisations in this country:—

(a) The Royal Institute of British Architects, with over 5,000 members and students and a network of "Allied Societies" and Branches (37 in number), covering the whole country and embracing several thousand additional members. The R.I.B.A. is the Royal and Chartered Body founded 90 years ago to foster the art of architecture and protect the interests of the profession.

(b) The Society of Architects, founded 40 years ago, an unchartered body of some 1,600 professional members and students, completely independent of the R.I.B.A. and endeavouring to discharge similar functions to those of the R.I.B.A.

3. The Society of Architects have declined to support and would almost certainly oppose a Registration Bill promoted by the R.I.B.A. on the only lines which are acceptable to the Council of the R.I.B.A., but would support a Bill which provided for the establishment of a new federal organisation to control the whole profession.

4. The R.I.B.A. will not promote or acquiesce in a Bill which hands over the control of the profession to a new body independent of the R.I.B.A. and will only support a Bill which confirms the chartered position of the R.I.B.A. as the supreme governing body of the profession.

5. As a way out of this "impasse" the Council of the Society of Architects propose to dissolve their Society on condition that their members are admitted into the R.I.B.A., so leaving the R.I.B.A. with its network of "Allied Societies" as the sole and supreme professional organisation of Architects in the kingdom.

6. If this solution is accepted there is no obstacle to the drafting of a Registration Bill on the lines desired by the R.I.B.A.

The opinion of counsel is desired on the following question:—

Has the R.I.B.A. a better chance of success with its Registration Bill if it absorbs the Society of Architects as suggested in paragraph 5, or if it leaves the Society in its present independent state?

OPINION.

Having regard to paragraphs 3 and 4 of these instructions I do not think that any Bill could succeed in present circumstances. But if the Society of Architects dissolve, as suggested in paragraph 5 of these instructions, and the members are admitted into the R.I.B.A., the hands of the R.I.B.A. would be immensely strengthened. Coming to Parliament, as they would, for the protection of the public as well as for their own better regulation, they would speak with the united and unanimous voice of the whole profession. I am of opinion that their chances of success would be infinitely greater than they would in the present circumstances.

E. SHORTT,

3, Hare Court,
Temple, E.C.1.

9th April, 1924.

Honouring an Architect.

We are glad to be able to congratulate Mr. J. W. Simpson, who received the honour of Knighthood for the work he has done in connection with the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley.

The R.I.B.A. Council's Proposals.

By an A.R.I.B.A.

The eagerly awaited proposals of the Institute and terms of agreement with the Society of Architects are at last before us, and reveal a compromise which was foreshadowed in "The Architect" of March 14.

To those who have waited patiently for this moment, it is indeed comforting to read the opening words of the proposals, namely that "the Councils of the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects are agreed after a careful review of the situation from all sides, that the interests of the profession as a whole will be best served by the amalgamation of the two societies . . ."

The point to which attention should be drawn is that *both Councils are agreed*, and are in fact, unanimously in favour of this form of unification, because they are of opinion that "such an amalgamation will undoubtedly strengthen the hands of the profession in dealing through one representative society, instead of two, with such questions as:—

1. Registration.
2. Education.
3. Competitions, etc., etc."

It will be seen from the terms of membership, which are appended elsewhere, that it is proposed to increase the Fellowship of the R.I.B.A. by approximately 170; the Associate class, however, is left intact; thus one of the great stumbling blocks in the path of previous attempts at agreement has been removed.

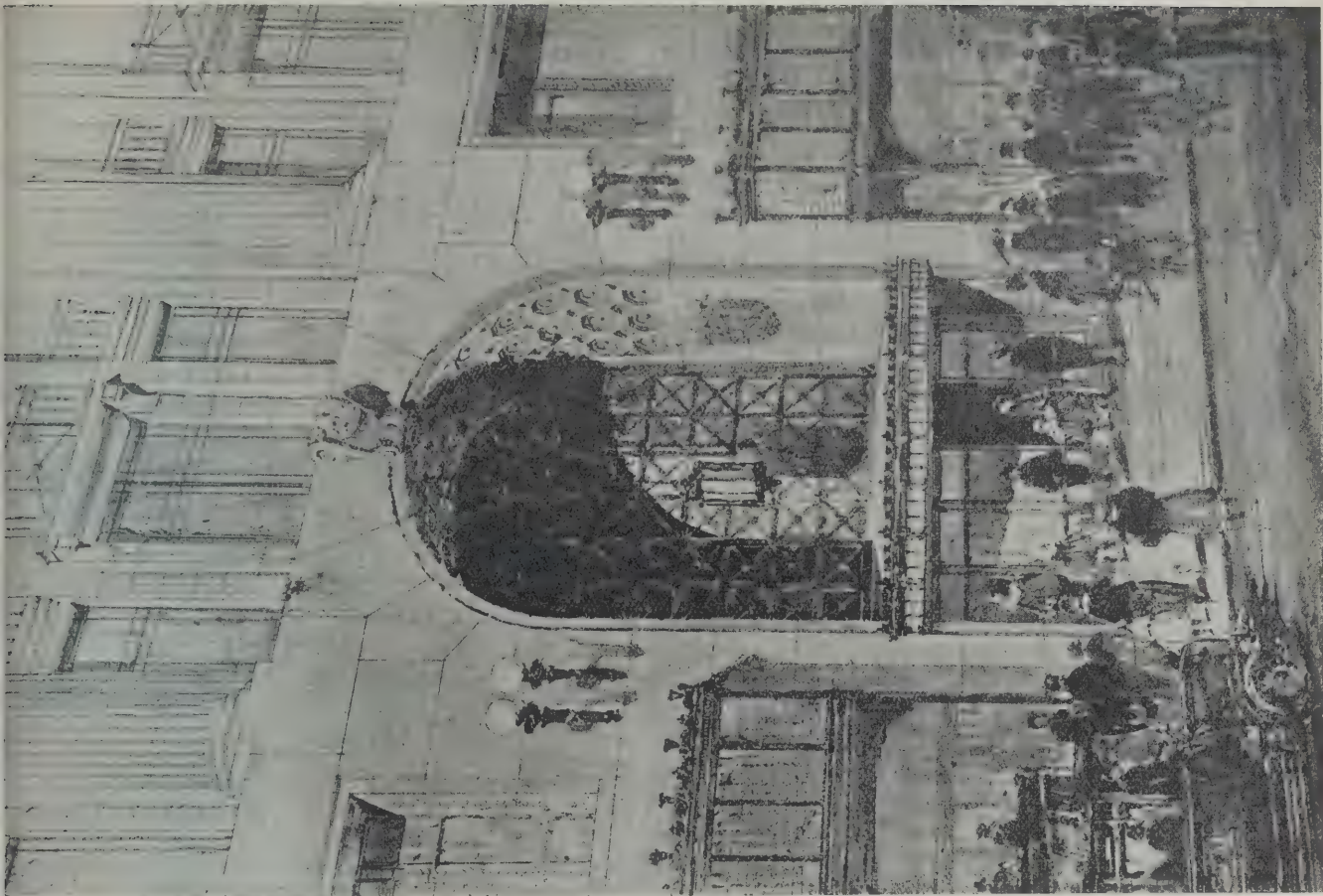
It is possible that members of the Society may consider that their prestige has been lowered by being relegated to the licentiate class in the Institute, which as we know is unexamined, while the present degree of M.S.A. carries with it certain qualifications.

But it must be remembered that not more than some 150 members have passed the Society's examinations, and consequently the R.I.B.A. has been wise to provide for the entry of these into the Associate class after a special examination.

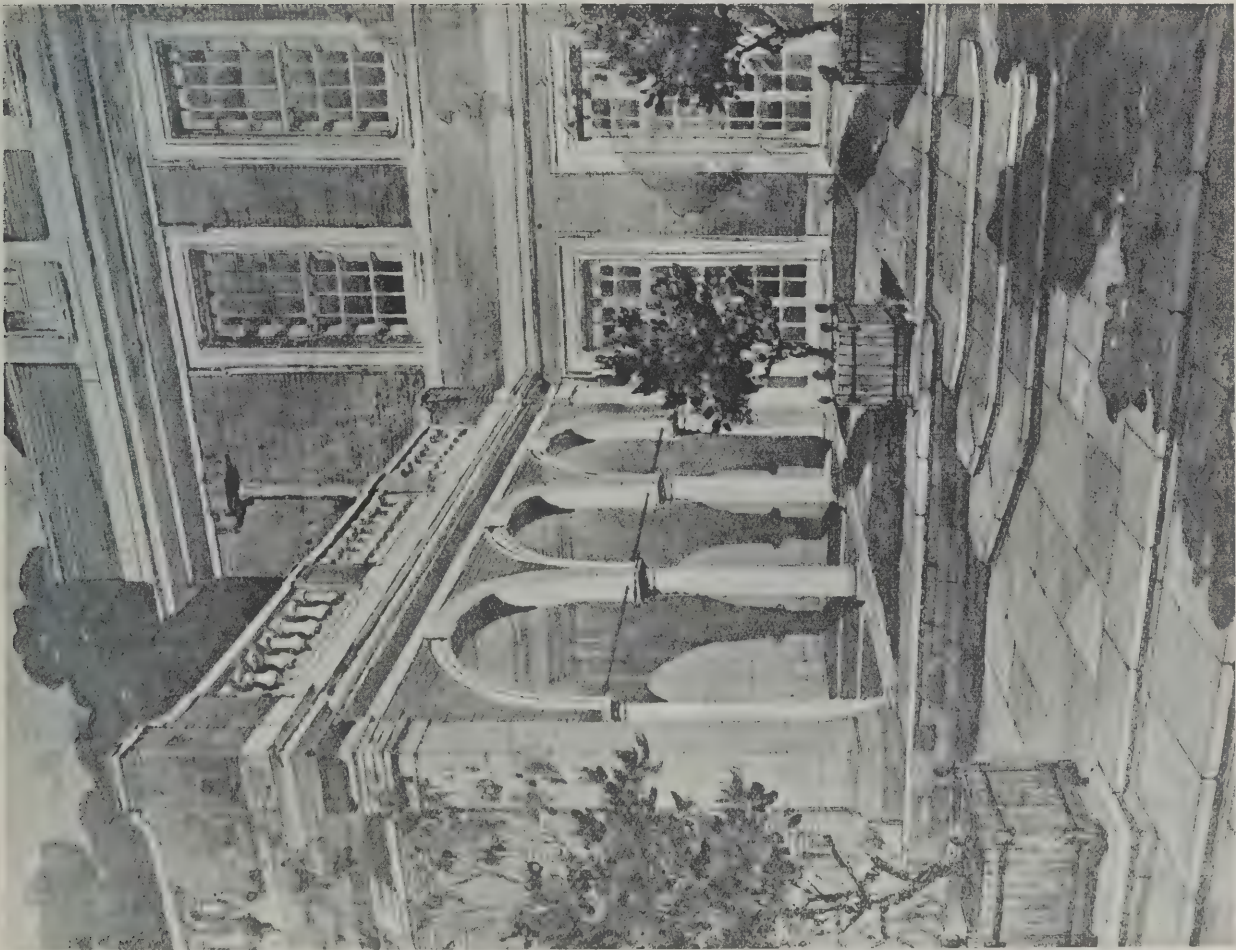
Full corporate and voting powers must be a most welcome advance in position and status for licentiates, who have long hoped for the fulfilment of this expectation. That it will be fulfilled depends, of course, on future ratification of these proposals by members of the two societies.

One cannot deal in detail here with all the various clauses in these proposals, but it is gratifying to note that an important point has been dealt with in section 7d. namely, that it is intended to alter the R.I.B.A. Charter and By-laws so as "to enable future important questions of Institute policy to be submitted to a referendum of all members, in lieu of a general meeting in London only." Under the present constitution, a Council Election is the only form of referendum that at present can carry any weight, and it appears that, in a great and important question such as registration, a proper election after all points of view have been published, is more advantageous than a mere "yes" and "no" answer such as a referendum would require. However, on questions that can be thus answered, alterations to the Charter and By-laws, as indicated, would certainly be beneficial.

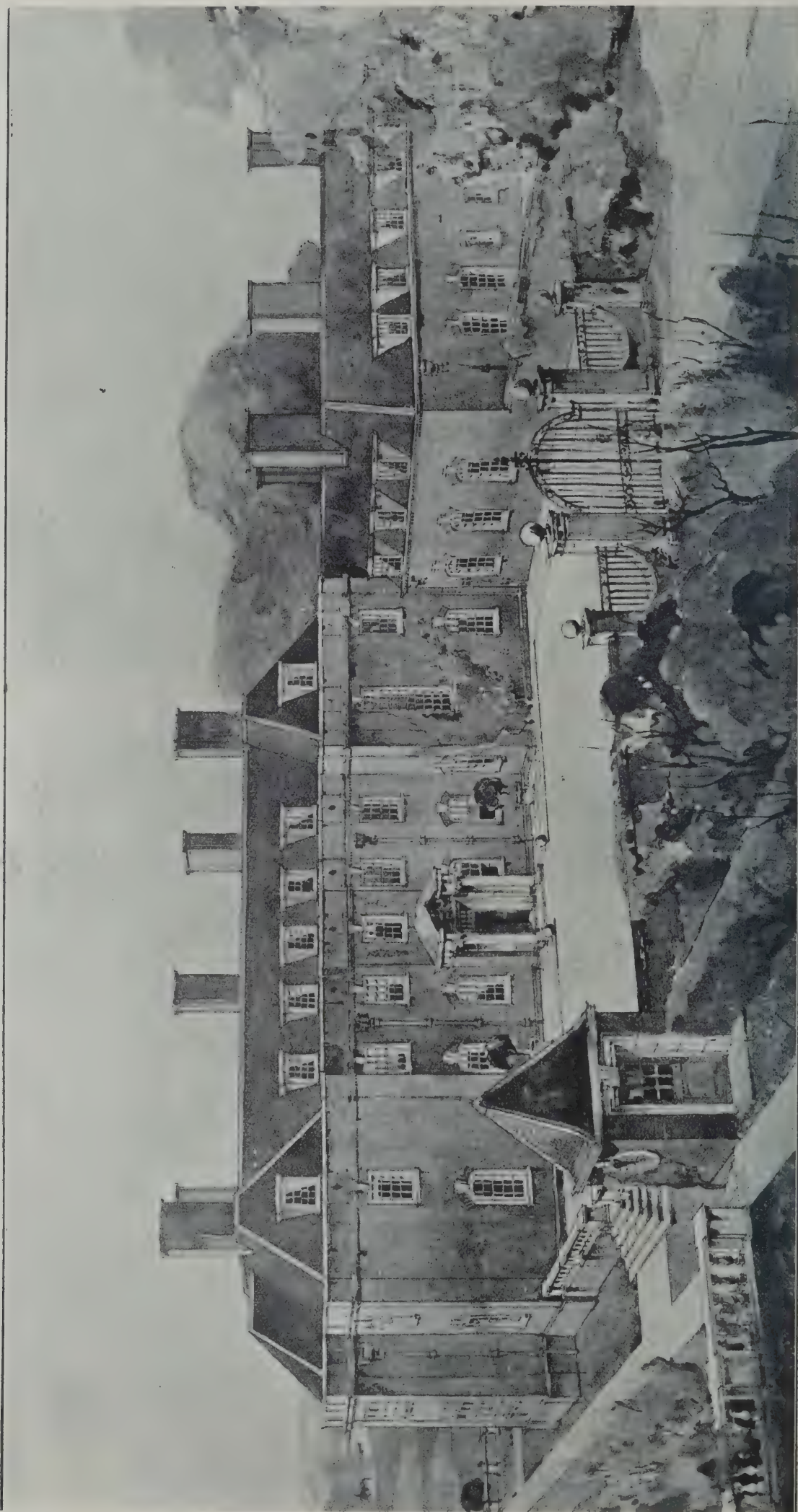
Referring now to "action after amalgamation," it is pleasing to note that the R.I.B.A. will undertake "to promote and pursue a Registration Bill." Though every Council of late years seems to have promised this, yet one cannot help feeling that, in view of the attached remarks of no less a person than Mr. Edward Shortt, K.C., the late Home Secretary, a future Council is more likely to have some measure of success in attaining their objects than has hitherto been the case. Mr. Edward Shortt says in fact that it is perfectly obvious that a unified body can prosecute a bill in Parliament with far more chance of success than if otherwise handled. Therefore, then, let those who desire Registration ratify the measures which are being put forward for their consideration.



NEW PREMISES, OXFORD STREET. T. P. & E. S. CLARKSON and H. AUSTEN HALL, Architects.
Drawing by P. D. HEEWORTH.



LOGGIA AT BOVERIDGE PARK, DORSET. E. GUY DAWBER, Architect.
Drawing by P. D. HEEWORTH.



NUTLEY DOWN. E. GUY DAWBER, Architect.

Drawing by ALEC HORSNELL.

"The Houses We Live In."

At a well-attended meeting at the Building Exhibition, Olympia, held under the auspices of the *Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union*, Mr. Raymond Unwin, F.R.I.B.A., Chief Architect to the Ministry of Health, and Mr. Alfred Clifford, the well-known Sociologist and Guildsman, discussed the problems facing the Government in its endeavour to solve the housing problem, from the point of view of the architect and client, or in modern phraseology the producer and consumer respectively.

After Mr. Clifford had spoken, Mr. Raymond Unwin said that in dealing with the question from the producer's point of view the greatest influence exerted upon man's character and personality was his environment, and in his youth his deepest and most lasting impressions would be received in the home environment. The home was in earlier times the chief pride of the family, and was handed down from generation to generation, and no doubt this contributed largely to the care and well-ordered planning so evident in the houses of the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It was in the home that our children received life's earliest recollections, and from it they emerged full of the noble and spiritual lessons it had taught them to attack a material world, and it was to the home they returned for safety, spent and weary from the fray, when nearing the end of life's journey.

A badly designed house is an almost certain method of spelling unhappiness, and daunts the spirit of those who live in it. To attain bodily health one demands from the home four things—shelter, pure air, sunlight, and convenience. The house plays just as large a part in the mental health of the individual, and requires first privacy for family life, implying a sufficiency of accommodation, second, personal privacy, third, suitable surroundings for meditation, and fourth, a sufficiency of amenity, comfort, and pleasantness, which implies a garden designed to bring happiness and health, mentally and physically, to the occupiers.

It is now proposed by the building industry itself that it can and ought to build 2,500,000 houses during the next fifteen years. To realise how far-reaching for good or bad will be the results, consider that if each house changes hands only once in fifteen years and the average family per house numbered only four, and taking sixty years as being the life of the house, by simple calculation we find that 40,000,000 people will have lived in them for an average of fifteen years each. This is a number approximately equal to our present population. To embark on such a programme of house building to encompass this result is immense, and affords a great and glorious opportunity for the nation to house the people well. On the architect and the builder the task we are faced with will fall. On them may fall the responsibility for much bad language, as, for example, planning the scullery door to bang the chair of someone sitting at the kitchen fire warming their toes; on the other hand their ears will burn continuously for the nice things said about the houses if they are convenient and well planned. It is no easy matter to plan small houses for the people.

The space allotted for the subsidised house is 950 square feet, and when that is divided up between the living room, parlour, scullery, three bedrooms, bathroom, larder and coal cellar, you are left with 190 square feet for stairs, lobbies, thickness of partition walls, and such planning requires the greatest care and attention. Some allow 104 square feet for scullery, larder and coals, and say they are too small; others allow only 45 square feet for the lot. The architect must study closely the allotment of every foot of space and its apportionment between the garden, the green for drying clothes, play garden, walk, etc., never forgetting that the garden should be a place of escape from the worries and troubles of the day, a place restful to the eye and soothing to the temper, and the greatest attention must be paid to the variety of temperaments included in the family. The greatest asset which the young architect and builder can possess is imagination. Its possession would unconsciously enable him to see the woman at work in the scullery cooking a dinner and having to open and close two doors and walk a distance to lay down a saucepan, or a door opening on the wrong side and knocking against the chair of someone sitting at a fire, and so prevent such happenings.

Our aim must be to seize upon this glorious opportunity to build houses which will be worthy of our day and generation, and in which we shall be proud to live ourselves and pass on to our children in the years to come.

Workmen making excavations for the widening of Trent Bridge, Burton-on-Trent, have laid bare a complete arch in perfect preservation of an ancient bridge which was built about 1174.

The Derby Dance Hall.

This Dance Hall was originally an old Corn Exchange of a type typical to provincial towns of some importance. It might have been erected about 1878. Though Mr. Wornum has decorated the interior in a very able manner, as shown in the illustration in this issue, it was quite impossible to hide the original character of the building—the bays could not be camouflaged. We have selected this time to include a few illustrations of the decorations because we think that those who are interested in materials which open up the unexamined and untried fields for decorative effects will appreciate Mr. Wornum's efforts. Most of the decorations are executed by the application of coloured printed papers, the features being the only parts in many of the decorations that have actually been painted by hand.

Such methods do not belittle the necessary knowledge of figure drawing, but they greatly assist in producing effects full of lustre. Dresses which otherwise could not be expressed without very painstaking efforts and much time are here produced by the proper selection of contrasting printed paper pattern effects. We strongly recommend all who have an opportunity of visiting Derby to spend an hour examining these very clever decorations.

Victoria and Albert Museum.

It will be remembered that until August 1914 the Victoria and Albert Museum, including the Indian Section, was open in the evening on certain days in the week. This opening, except for the Library, was discontinued during the War, and for reasons of economy it has been since found necessary to close the Museum every day at five p.m. The Library also has been closed in the evening since early in 1922.

We have pleasure in announcing that these restrictions have now been removed, and as from Thursday, April 17, the Museum will remain open until 9 p.m. on two evenings each week, namely, on Thursdays and Saturdays. The Library and the Students' Rooms of the Department of Engraving, Illustration and Design, and Textiles will also be open on these evenings, when the usual facilities for study will be afforded. No charge is made on any day for admission.

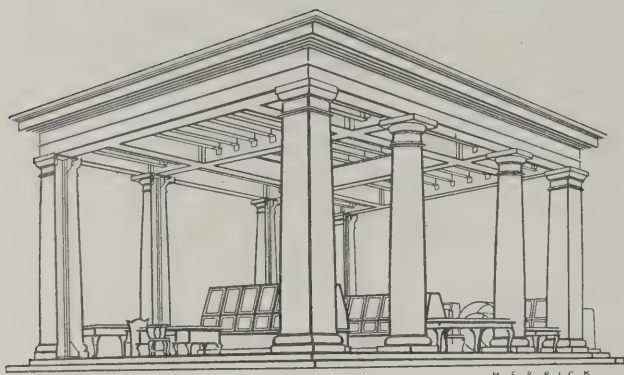
"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

APRIL 25, 1874.

THE RESTORATION OF WARWICK CASTLE.

According to the "*Birmingham Gazette*," Mr. J. Bromwich, of Rugby, has made such satisfactory advances with his contract that the builder's work may be considered practically finished, but the apartments must for a long time remain in the hands of the painter, decorator, and upholsterer. Lord Brooke's suite of apartments is, so far as structural arrangements go, finished; and the same may almost be said of the private rooms in the east wing; while the baronial hall is being cleaned down. The latter grand apartment presents a striking contrast to the appearance which it bore on the memorable 3rd of December, 1871. The roof is of stained pitch-pine; the new freestone windows overlooking the Avon are very handsome, and the Gothic arches of the hall are elaborate and artistically executed. Additional archaeological interest is imparted to the renovations from the fact of the disaster of 1871 having disclosed a part of the original structure of this portion of the building which had previously been masked. The relaying the tessellated marble floor will be commenced as soon as the six-branch chandelier, containing fifty lights, has been fixed to the centre of the ceiling of the hall. Mr. J. Syer, the well-known armour restorer, of London, is most successfully continuing his important and interesting work, and the result is that the loss of ancient armour will be reduced to a minimum. When ready for their reception, the baronial hall will be enriched with as many suits of armour as it was before the fire. Lord Brooke's celebrated leathern doublet cannot, of course, be replaced; and some of the old muskets will also be missing. The twisted and bent barrels are all that remain of these, their valuable carved and inlaid stocks having been consumed. Mr. Syer has just polished a suit of black armour, which was rescued before the fire reached it. The suit belongs to the late Elizabethan period, and is complete in every part. Mr. Syer found a pretty nearly complete suit of horse armour at the lodge, and, on removing the rust and black varnish, he discovered the same motto and crest as were upon the breastplate of the above suit. The total amount of the public subscriptions towards the restoration fund was £9,651 5s. 9d., which, it is needless to add, will be but a tithe of the entire cost of the restorations and renovations.

British Empire Exhibition, Wembley.



The great Teeside steelmakers, Dorman Long & Co., Ltd. have erected an exhibit of unusual interest at Stand No. 43 in the Palace of Engineering. A far-reaching feature of this large concern's business is their control of production from the raw material—coal and iron ore—up to the finished steel, of which latter they have an output capacity of one million tons per annum.

With these great resources their products cover a wide field of industry and on the stand a thoroughly representative display is on view of their various manufactures. Apart, however, from the samples exhibited the stand itself will claim much attention since it has been designed specially by Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., architect, and creator of the stately Cenotaph in Whitehall. The severe simplicity and beauty of line in the design of the stand has been translated into stone and marble in a manner that exemplifies the relationship between the architectural stonework or casing and the vital steel skeleton in the modern steel framed building. Certain portions are left open to show the construction of the internal steelwork of the columns and the roof. The examples and specimens to be shown include:—Crushed slag for roads and concreting. A ten ton ingot of basic open hearth steel, representative of the company's output capacity of upwards one million tons of this steel per annum. The full range of New British Standard Beams (29 sections), Channels (18 sections), equal and unequal angles (36 sections), bulb angles and tees (28 sections). Specimens of pressed plate and rolled steel troughing for the flooring of buildings and decking of bridges. A wide range of flat bars, round bars and square bars. Galvanised and black steel sheets. Specimens are shown of typical sheets and rainwater goods, ventilator louvres, fencing pales and glazing strips. There will also be shown a water colour drawing (by Sir John Burnet and Partners, architects) of Sydney Harbour Bridge. This is to be an arch bridge of 1,650 feet clear span—the largest single span bridge in the world—the total length of the arch and approach spans being 3,770 feet. Headroom for vessels passing in or out of the harbour will be 170 feet at high water and the height to the top of the arch will be 470 feet above high water. The bridge is to carry four railway tracks, as well as a 57 foot roadway and two footways, and will have a total width of 160 feet. This contract was placed with Dorman, Long & Co. by the New South Wales Government in February, 1924.

The Gas Industry's Finished Display at Wembley

At the opening of the Exhibition one of the Exhibits which was completely finished was that of the British Gas Industry, which occupies over 12,000 square feet in the very centre of the Palace of Industry, where it cannot be missed. True, there is an Historical Section of the Gas Exhibit still to come, but it, too, is ready though not yet placed in its position. Not unnaturally the Gas Industry, being one of the oldest scientific industries in the country, has a fine and valuable collection of historical documents and relics, so valuable indeed that it has been decided not to bring them up to Wembley until the remainder of the Exhibition is entirely completed and they can be guaranteed absolutely safe from damage and dust. In the meantime this interesting collection, which represents more than a century of development in resolving a lump of coal into gas, coke and all the many by-products of gas manufacture, has been assembled at South Kensington by the courtesy of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, where it has been viewed by members of the Press. Similarly in some of the model rooms in the domestic section of the Gas Exhibit the lighter and more beautiful hangings, though ready at any moment to be dropped into their place, have not been put up for fear of damage, while

the carrying of bricks and mortar for the completion of some neighbouring exhibits still goes on. But it is already easily seen that the interior of the Gas Exhibit is to be one of the most artistic and pleasing effects of the whole Exhibition. Gas is, of course, in evidence elsewhere besides in the Gas Exhibit, notably in the Amusement Park, which is brilliantly lighted by 5,000 gas lamps—a proved illuminant for outside lighting.

The Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., is showing at Wembley Exhibition, Stand S.766, various qualities of fire and thief resisting safes and strong-room doors. These range from the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch steel, list 2, fire resisting safe, up to the massive list 7 safe, which is proof against fire and thieves, drill proof, oxy-acetylene proof, violence and explosive proof. There are many security devices to be seen, such as the Ratner explosive safety bolt and the change combination lock. The latter can be locked by over a thousand keys and only unlocked by the key that locked it; the former is an ingenious arrangement which jams the bolts of a door should the locks be removed or damaged by any means.

The Use of Cement.

At the International Cement Congress, held at Olympia, Colonel H. Vaughan Kent read a paper on concrete block construction, in which he said that the use of concrete blocks had been greatly prejudiced by the mistakes made by the inventors of various processes during the last twenty years. There was no reason why concrete blocks if properly made and used should not enable us to build houses as dry and warm as those of brick. There was no reason why the surface of concrete should be left the cold grey colour of the natural material, which was disliked by many, for the outer half-inch of material could be coated with colour and finished to almost any tint desired. He considered that it had been demonstrated at the British Empire Exhibition what could be achieved in this respect with the material. As there was a shortage of both bricklayers and bricks, concrete blocks should be recognized as a means by which difficulties could be overcome and houses erected at a reasonable price, especially as in many cases the requisite materials were to be found on the sites where building was contemplated.

Not only would building be expedited by the use of concrete but unemployment would be lessened.

There is much force and reason in Mr. Kent's remarks. The natural conservatism of our character has checked the use of concrete in this country.

Hospitals.

It is proposed to make some alterations and additions to the Kingseat Mental Hospital, Aberdeen. The scheme has been sent to the General Board of Control in Edinburgh.

The Burnham Urban District Council, Somerset, has decided to approach the County Council with the question of the erection of an isolation hospital.

The Walsall Rural District Council favourably received the proposal of the Cannock Urban District Council for the acquisition of the Cannock Chase Military Hospital and its reconstruction into a hospital for infectious diseases to be used by a number of local authorities.

Messrs. H. T. Buckland and Wm. Haywood, architects, of Birmingham, are the architects for the proposed cottage hospital to be built on a site on Middles Farm, situated between South Moor and Craghead. It is estimated that the cost of the hospital will be in the neighbourhood of £12,500.

Plans are to be prepared and submitted to the Hull Corporation for a hospital. The probable site will be found on the Cottingham Castle estate.

Plans for the enlargement of the Leatherhead Cottage Hospital have been approved. These are estimated at an expenditure of £4,500. The Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre Council at Pontyclun has decided to join the Pontypridd Council in the erection of a joint maternity hospital.

The Rugby Guardians propose to spend £7,500 on extension works at the Workhouse and Infirmary.

The Weston-super-Mare Urban District Council has adopted the architect's plans for the provision of an isolation hospital.

The Bristol Corporation proposes to spend £33,600 on the enlargement of Ham Green Hospital, to provide an additional 56 beds.

The Building Trades Exhibition at the Olympia—III.



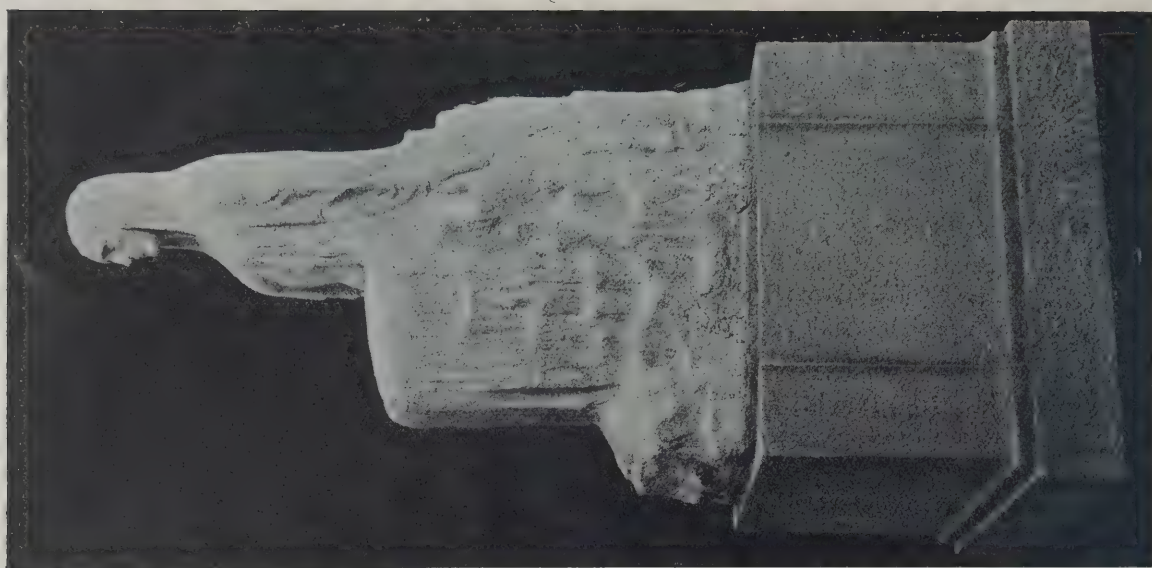
THE HOUSE OF NEWBURY, OLD SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM. A. RANSOME, Architect.

The panelling is executed in *Elo "asbestos."* The fibrous plaster ceiling and new stucco walls have been carried out in Bath stone finish. The leaded lights, with stained glass medallions, have been executed with the predominating colours of old gold and amber so as to strike a note in harmony with the antique Italian Renaissance furniture. The conversion and reconstruction was designed by Mr. A. Ransom, Architect. The entire decorative scheme was entrusted to the Allied Arts and Crafts Guild, 4, Brook Street, St. Paul's, Birmingham, who are showing some interesting specimens of their work on Stand No. 72, Row D, of the above Exhibition.

It will be readily admitted by all who visit the exhibition that the New Hall and the new main entrance in the Hammer-smith Road greatly add to the general convenience of all parties. Whether the galleries will ever be used again it is quite impossible to say, but many are of the opinion that the present arrangement of occupying the ground floor only is in every way the most satisfactory. It is so very easy to level criticism at the organisers, who undoubtedly are faced with many difficult problems to solve. And whilst we would compliment them this year on the excellent arrangement of most of the available space, we feel inclined to suggest just one small item in the planning that would in our opinion greatly add to general effect of the whole exhibition. We think that the spaces between the New Hall and the old original building might be so disposed in future exhibitions as to knit the two units into one whole scheme. If the passages between the two halls were wider so that visitors could obtain a clear vision of the New Hall, with its central features, we feel much would be gained at the cost of very little. It would be difficult to select the best stand of this year's exhibition. Many have been very carefully planned and thought out. Many exhibitors are by the very nature of the articles they wish to show debarred from making an artistic effect. The problem which is in the minds of most exhibitors can be reduced down to a few simple sentences. Are they to aim at an artistic effect, or are they to display their articles of manufacture? Being an exhibition which has for its chief aim the publicity of new ideas and new products, the exhibitor in most cases rightly selects the display of his patents. He perhaps in some cases errs on the side of too lavish a display—turning his stand into a bazaar or store, losing sight of the idea that should be ever before his mind in connection with all exhibitions, namely, the creation of a lasting impression in the minds of all who visit or even glance at his stand. Advertising to-day enters into every transaction of the modern business mind. Advertising to-day is a fine art, the limits of which have

yet to be found. All the old Victorian methods are long out of date. Competition has rendered it necessary to think very deeply on the subject of advertising. All exhibition stands should be recognised as being advertisements. The Olympia is to-day a big book where instead of printed pages the exhibitor is able to show to those interested his actual products. But the mental effect on the mind of the visitor is much the same as the effect produced on an individual who glances through a book. All exhibitors should aim at producing lasting impressions. Simplicity of design and display should be the watchword. Each one should try and remember that he is a single unit amongst many exhibitors and that unless he can create a lasting impression his effort will be forgotten in the general mass of bewildering pictures which each visitor must carry away with him.

It has been long recognised that the stand at any exhibition is only like an illustrated advertisement in a journal, a small percentage of those who see it place orders; the large majority, unless frequently reminded of the products exposed, forget in the daily round of duties the impression gained at the exhibition. Many decline to advertise in the technical Press because they have spent so much money in connection with an exhibition stand. This is truly a mistake. It is like placing a single full-page advertisement in a popular press journal and then sitting down and waiting for orders. To-day advertising is not a subject to be lightly considered; it cannot produce lasting and continuous business unless it is a well organised and constant effort. Every exhibition stand should be ably and manfully given a first-class chance of success by a well organised publicity effort in all directions. Exhibitors must realise that to erect a beautiful stand in the Olympia is not enough; they must assist in bringing the interested public into the hall to see their effort, and when the exhibition is over they must use every means within their reach to retain in the minds of the visitors the impression their stand has produced.



Photograph by Sydney Newbery.

THREE VIEWS OF "THE SPIRIT OF THE ROCKS," by F. W. DOYLE JONES, A.R.B.S., Sculptor.

This figure was exhibited at the Building Trades Exhibition at the Olympia with a view to demonstrating the vast possibilities of cast-stone as a means of architectural and sculptural expression. The materials used in casting "The Spirit of the Rocks" were crushed Cornish granite and "Atlas" white cement.

Copyright Frederic Coleman

No. 1

April, 1924

SOLIGNUM EXHIBITION NEWS

Green Solignum on the Switchback.

THE destruction wrought by Dry Rot amongst our old buildings, and the increasing danger of infection arising from the large quantity of partially seasoned timber used to-day in building, have rivetted the attention not only of those responsible for the preservation of both old and new buildings, but also of the man in the street and the Daily Press.

It is recognised to-day that every piece of timber used in construction work must be treated with a wood preservative or costly bills for renewal are liable to be faced at an early date.

And Solignum by its supreme quality has come to play the leading part amongst wood preservatives.



The vast area of the Switchback railway treated in Green Solignum gave a unique opportunity, apart from the need for protection against decay, for demonstrating the great advance made by the Solignum process over old methods in securing harmonious effects by wood staining on a large scale. For whilst we recommend Brown Exterior Solignum for ordinary preservative purposes, a range of rich brown shades being avail-

able, yet we are able to offer a variety of pleasing colours allowing unusually pleasing results to be obtained. We would draw the particular attention of all Architects visiting Wembley to the pleasing effects of the Green Solignum as applied to the Switchback railways, Institutes, Loading Stations and Dairy, &c.

There is a Solignum colour for every need—and with each colour there are preserving properties—rendering woodwork safe against dry rot, beetle, or any other cause of decay.

The cost of preserving *all* the woodwork in any new building is so low that it is cheaper to treat the whole of the woodwork than risk later dissatisfaction through early and heavy bills for renewal of decayed wood.

Major & Company by the world-wide sale of Solignum have had unique opportunities for studying wood preservation under all climatic conditions, and their experience is offered freely to all interested in these problems.

Sole Manufacturers,
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Enquiries to:—

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205, Borough High St.,
London, S.E.1.



Wood
Preserving
Stain,
18
Colours.

Registered Trade Mark.



IMPERATOR "A" TILES.

Shown by THE MARBLE MOSAIC CO., LTD.,
Stand 311, Row R.

Messrs. The Marble Mosaic Co., 10a, Linmos House, Charles Street, St. James Street, Bristol, Stand No. 311, Row R. The main object of the Building Trades Exhibition is to afford exhibitors an opportunity of showing new materials and products. It is at times almost impossible by means of the pen to describe an artistic effect, and therefore manufacturers seek by means of exhibition stands to convey the real idea and quality of their new products. Messrs. The Marble Mosaic Co. of Bristol have on their stand specimens of Imperator "A" Tiles, these are produced by granulated marble being subjected to hydraulic pressure whilst in moulds, constructed on a similar principle to the encaustic tile moulds. It does not need a very vivid imagination to picture the possibilities, neither need we dwell upon the superior durability and strength of these marble tiles for flooring purposes as compared with ordinary tiles. But the point we should like to dwell upon is the vast field for artistic development. The preparation of the granulated marble to a fine tone of colour or any special tone, we are informed, would present no difficulties; these tones would never be dead flat but would take on themselves all the charm of the granulated effect of marble. Architects could select a stock pattern, but specify special colourings to suit their special schemes. It would entail some slight delay in delivery but this would be altogether outweighed by the fact that the tiles would be unique and exclusive.



SPORTS PAVILION AT RAYNES PARK.
J. R. SCOTT, Architect.

The above illustration of the Sports Pavilion at Raynes Park is covered by Marseilles roofing tiles, supplied by Messrs. Langley, 161, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1. Some very charming photographs are shown on Messrs. Langley's Stand, No. 157, Row H, at the Building Trades' Exhibition, and an examination of these and the samples exhibited will go a long way towards convincing the profession of the high appreciation these tiles have secured.

The Sentry hot-water boiler is primarily designed to provide a perpetual supply of hot water. Size No. 1 is suitable for a 40 to 50 gallon storage and has a maximum output of four 30 gallon hot baths per hour, the normal fuel consumption being one ton for three months' work, less than sixpence for twenty-four hours. No. 2 size is suitable for houses with two bathrooms. The fire is always visible through a large and well protected mica window, thus those working in the kitchen have the same comforting influence as was derived in former times from the now old-fashioned and in most cases out of date kitcheners. An open fire is available when desired, the furnace door forms a convenient and useful trivet. It is possible to heat flat-irons etc., at an open fire. The large flat hot plate will serve for simple cooking purposes. Should it be desired to utilise the hot water supply for heating purposes, four pipe connections in sizes Nos. 1-5, enable a heating system for radiators, hot towel rails, etc., to be operated independently of the hot water supply system.

Messrs. The Triangular Construction Co., Ltd., Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey, Stand Nos. 35 & 36, Row C. Those members of the profession who were unable to see this exhibit shown at the Olympia will have an opportunity to rectify this mistake at Wembley. We can assure them that the triangular blocks

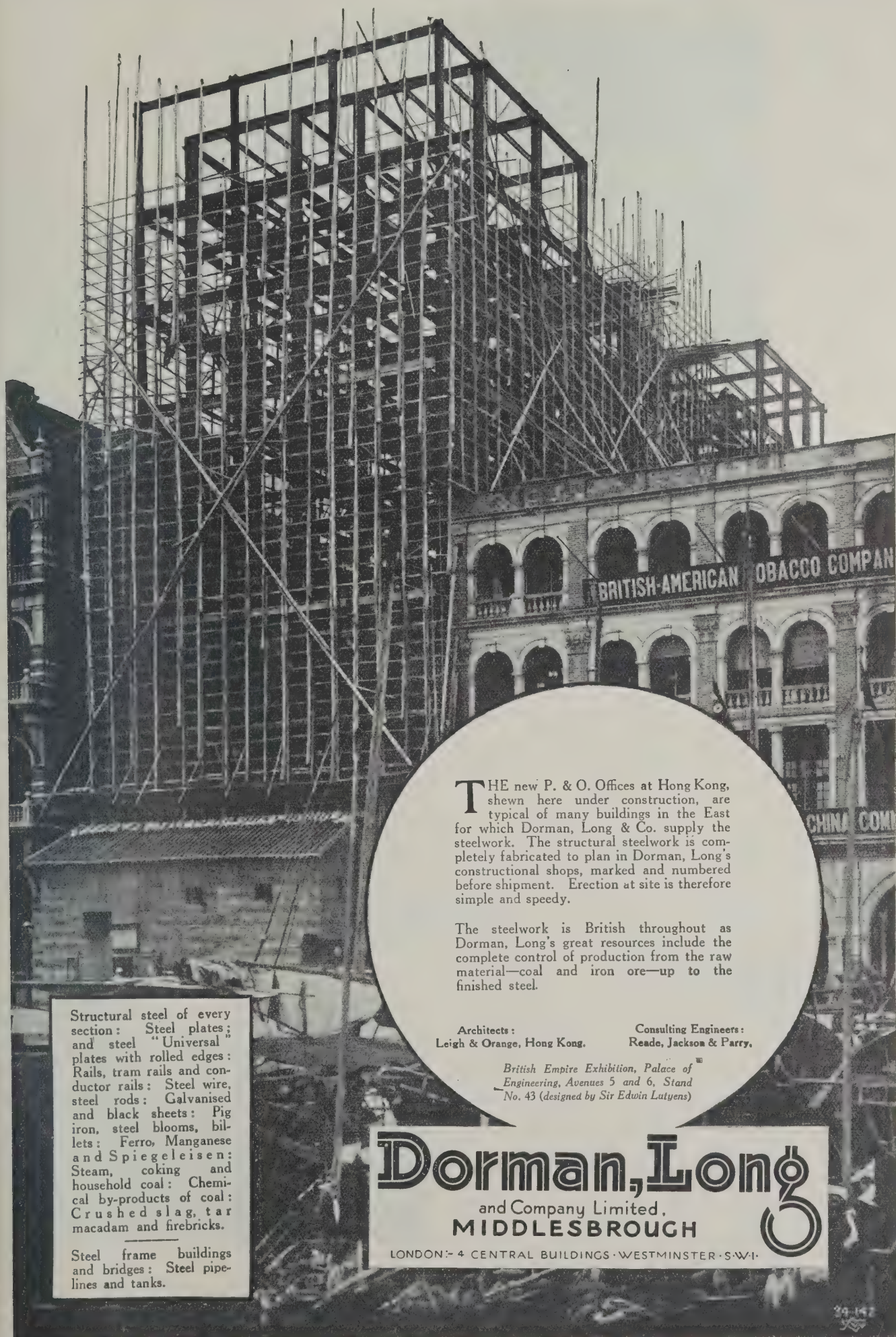


HOUSE AT IMBER COURT, EAST MOLESEY, SURREY.

are well worth a close study. It seems odd that this form has not been applied before and specially when the many advantages offered by the application of hollow triangular shaped blocks has been studied. The strength of a wall erected by such blocks is altogether far and away greater, and it needs no complicated demonstration to prove this fact, the thing is quite apparent. The direction of the walls is in no way limited by the use of this triangular block. The base of the triangle is 18 inches, the character of the same is isosceles, that is, a right-angle triangle. If two sizes are used, namely, a block with a base 18 inches and another with a base of 9 inches, then it will be quite easy to realise the vast uses to which these two sizes can be put. By virtue of their shape a natural interlocking results. By using wire reinforcements it is possible to construct the strongest walls and columns imaginable. Where a steel staunchion is to be strengthened and encased these triangular blocks are an ideal form of construction. Machines for making these blocks can be worked by unskilled labour. If the blocks are made at the same time as the footings are started, the blocks will be matured for use when the other work is ready. The machine will produce on average 800 blocks per day. On the stand a very fine red roofing tile made of concrete was also exhibited.



HOUSE AT IMBER COURT, EAST MOLESEY, SURREY.



Structural steel of every section: Steel plates; and steel "Universal" plates with rolled edges: Rails, tram rails and conductor rails: Steel wire, steel rods: Galvanised and black sheets: Pig iron, steel blooms, billets: Ferro, Manganese and Spiegeleisen: Steam, coking and household coal: Chemical by-products of coal: Crushed slag, tar macadam and firebricks.

Steel frame buildings and bridges: Steel pipelines and tanks.

THE new P. & O. Offices at Hong Kong, shewn here under construction, are typical of many buildings in the East for which Dorman, Long & Co. supply the steelwork. The structural steelwork is completely fabricated to plan in Dorman, Long's constructional shops, marked and numbered before shipment. Erection at site is therefore simple and speedy.

The steelwork is British throughout as Dorman, Long's great resources include the complete control of production from the raw material—coal and iron ore—up to the finished steel.

Architects:
Leigh & Orange, Hong Kong.

Consulting Engineers:
Reads, Jackson & Parry.

British Empire Exhibition, Palace of
Engineering, Avenues 5 and 6, Stand
No. 43 (designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens)

Dorman, Long
and Company Limited,
MIDDLESBROUGH
LONDON: 4 CENTRAL BUILDINGS · WESTMINSTER · S.W.1.



STAND NO. 144, ROW G, ILLUSTRATING THE BRITISH FIBROCEMENT WORKS, LTD., EXHIBIT AT THE OLYMPIA.

Messrs. Batsford's stand, No. 86, Row E, at the Building Trades' Exhibition, contains a full range of their important publications for architects, surveyors, builders, interior decorators and craftsmen, including many notable books which are justly claimed to be standard authorities on their respective subjects. Prominent among the works shown are:—Mr. Gotch's "Architecture of the Renaissance in England," Sir Banister Fletcher's "History of Architecture and Text-books on Professional Practice," Prof. Richardson's "Monumental Classic Architecture and London Houses," Mr. Aymer Vallance's "Old Colleges of Oxford," Mr. Crossley's "English Church Woodwork and Church Monuments," Mr. Stratton's "English Interior," Mr. Statham's "Critical History of Architecture: The Batsford Library of Decorative Art," a series of four volumes forming a survey of English furniture and decoration from 1500-1820, Miss Jourdain's "English Interiors from Smaller Houses, 1660-1800," Mr. Godfrey's "Architectural Guide to London," Mr. and Mrs. Quennell's "History of Everyday Things," Mr. Gordon Allen's "Cheap Cottage and Small House," Mr. Ellis's "Modern Practical Carpentry and Joinery," Mr. Mitchell's "Building Construction," Mr. E. H. Blake's "Drainage and Sanitation," Mr. Rea's "How to Estimate," "Academy Architecture," a complete set from Vol. 1 to the last issued Vol. 55, and many others dealing with architectural art, building practice, and interior decoration. An interesting and novel feature of Messrs. Batsford's exhibit on this occasion is the inclusion of a series of rare mezzotint portraits of great English architects of the past, including Inigo Jones, Wren, Hawksmoor, Vanbrugh, Gibbs, Soane, James Paine, and others, together with a selection of scarce out-of-print items, including famous architectural works issued in the eighteenth century, from their vast stock at 94 High Holborn, which latter, for nearly a century, has been the Mecca of all architects.

Messrs. Colthurst, Symons and Co., Ltd., Bridgwater, Stand No. 191, Row J, are showing Acme tiles. These are made by machinery and are thus of great density and consequently less absorbent than hand-made tiles. The tint is of a pleasing red, but can be dun coloured or black glazed if desired. The tile breaks joint and engages itself to the next tile so easily that the laying of a roof is simplicity itself. Those who have had the pleasure of visiting Bridgwater and this company's works will realise that whilst the district supplies the finest clay the care and attention devoted to the goods manufactured by the company is responsible for the high quality they have maintained over so many years.

Amongst quite a number of exhibits which illustrate recent progress, we would like to mention the imitation timber effects which the British Fibro-cement Works, Ltd., are showing on their stand. It struck us that if wood graining could be so well reproduced in Fibro-cement sheeting it might be possible to manufacture many decorative effects in this material which by virtue of their fireproof qualities would greatly commend themselves. We might suggest low relief ceilings, wall fillings and dado decorations, picture rail mouldings could form the finishing edge of a modelled wall filling. Such fireproof decorations might induce insurance companies to reconsider some of their rates. Fibro-cement sheeting made to represent wood by virtue of the textural surface of rough, unplanned timber graining being faithfully reproduced compares very favourably with the price of actual timber. We recollect having seen many scholastic buildings and church halls, etc., decorated by a wood pannelled dado. This woodwork has, of course, not lessened the fire risk, as such material burns with a great rapidity and heat. Executed in Fibro-cement, these dados would have exactly the same decorative value but would be absolutely fireproof.



THE SOLIGNUM STAND, NO. 110, ROW F.

Messrs. Major & Co., Ltd., Sculcoates, Hull. This Stand has called forth a considerable amount of attention and praise. It most certainly will rank as one of the most artistic efforts of the present Exhibition.

RONUK, LTD.

—Stand 114, Row F.—

Send specially trained workmen to all parts of the country to stain and

POLISH FLOORS,

PANELLING and OTHER
INTERIOR WOODWORK



By Appointment to
HIS MAJESTY
THE KING.

Architects

requiring estimates for work of this nature are invited to write, mentioning the kind of wood, its condition — whether new or old—its area and the distance of the work from the nearest station, to

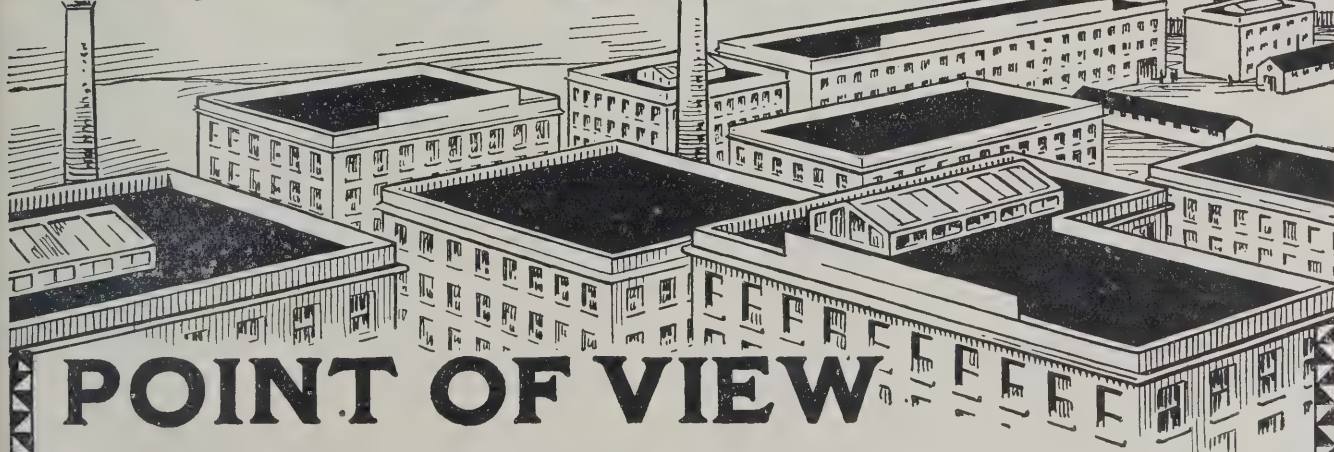


By Appointment to
H.M. QUEEN
ALEXANDRA.

RONUK, LTD.,

Head Office and Works : - - - - PORTSLADE, SUSSEX.
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The VULCANITE



POINT OF VIEW

Viewed from the point of cost, durability & reliability - there is nothing to equal VULCANITE for covering flat roofs.

THE ARCHITECT'S POINT OF VIEW.

Dear Sirs,

I am pleased to inform you that the roof at the "Victoria Café" has been completed entirely to my satisfaction.

I would like to point out to you how very satisfactory your Vulcanite roofs, as laid by your own workmen, have proved to be.

It is now some 23 years since I first used this kind of roofing, and I have used this to a considerable extent during the intervening years, and in every case I have found these roofs give the utmost satisfaction.

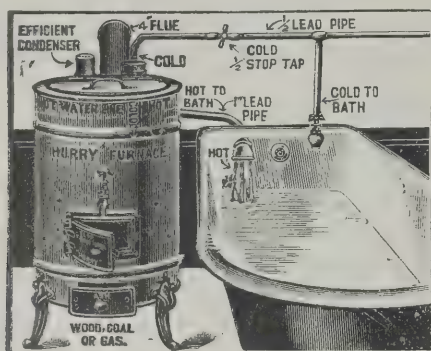
Yours faithfully,

(Signed) EDWIN A. JACKSON,
For Lacey & Jackson (Architects and Surveyors).

Ashford, Kent,
3rd December, 1923.

VULCANITE LTD. BLACKFRIARS HOUSE, E.C.4 and at
BELFAST, WIGAN & GLASGOW.

"Hurry" Water Heater Co., 39, Broad Street, Birmingham, Stand 199, Row K. We can quite believe the statement made by this exhibitor that he has done very well at the exhibition and that the amount of interest displayed by architects and kinds of visitors has been truly remarkable. Architects interested in supplying an efficient service in the houses they are erecting in connection with the different housing schemes they have planned will do well to consider the many sided uses to which the "Hurry" gas furnace can be put to, but it is incorrect to describe the furnace as a gas furnace. Coal can also be utilised as a heating fuel. We illustrate one of the "Hurry" furnaces, and from this it will be easy to imagine the uses to which the housewife will put the machine. The gas burner, entitled the "Hurry"

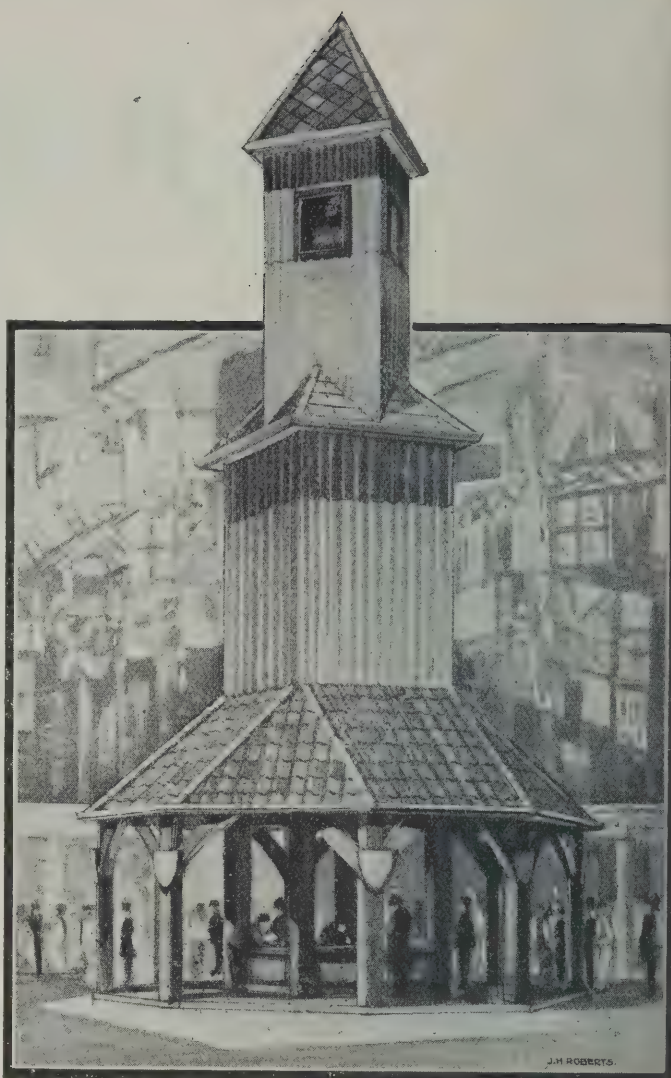


burner, consumes gas and air in the following manner: six parts air to three parts gas about 35 feet per hour. An ordinary geyser may easily consume 90 per cent. as in the flame. The "Hurry" furnace for subsidy houses. Coal and gas heated designs. Hot water to baths and for washing clothes (three hot baths for one penny each).

Messrs. The Hoisting Appliance Co., Atlas Iron Works, 35, 37, 39, Hornsey Road, Holloway, N.7, are exhibiting on their stand No. 56, Row D, at the Building Trades' Exhibition a very efficient electric service lift. The price has been greatly reduced without any sacrifice in the efficiency being necessary. These service lifts are every year becoming more necessary. In some dwellings it is impossible to arrange for the kitchen to be nearer to the living rooms, and domestic servants can reasonably expect the installation of appliances that will lighten their work as much as possible. Households will find that domestic servants will prefer to accept service in houses where an electric service lift has been installed because they fully realise the comfort that such a lift will procure for them. Therefore architects who are converting premises and installing modern conveniences into old houses would do well to study the very efficient and reasonably priced electric service lift offered to them by this exhibitor.

"Minimax" is a hand fire extinguisher of very fine quality, specially designed to deal instantaneously with an outbreak of fire. There are a number of fire extinguishers on the market. Some might have a difficulty in selecting which machine to recommend to their clients. But Minimax, Ltd., in addition to supplying a first class extinguisher, guarantee to inspect the machines every year. Some property cannot be covered by insurance. Money compensation cannot replace unique articles of value, and therefore architects in specifying the very best fire extinguisher render to their clients a real service. Insurance companies do take into consideration when estimating the premium rate the precautions that the client has installed to suppress the fires in their early stages. The Royal Commission which recently issued a report expressed themselves decidedly on the system of inspection and considered that all such services should be encouraged in every possible way. See Stand No. 9, Row B.

In the New Hall, Stand No. 264, Row O, occupied by Henry Banger—the designer and inventor of the Conbloc concrete block making machine and the manufacturer of Banger's Patent Non-slip Roof Tile, which is made of either burnt clay or concrete—has during most of the exhibition hours been surrounded by an interest group of visitors. The Conbloc concrete block-making machine, which is timber-framed with iron interior, has been operating daily. The whole process is so very simple the exhibitor has not needed to enter into a long descriptive explanation of the machine. Confidence in his patent has marked his attitude towards all interested parties, and many exhibitors would do well to study this method. Most of the visitors are practical men and do not need to be handled in a manner such as might be necessary were the title of the exhibition other than a Building Trades' Exhibition.



We are showing an illustration of Messrs. Bell's Poilite and Everite Co., Ltd., dominating tower which rears its great height (only fifteen inches short of sixty feet) in the New Hall where it is a veritable giant. As will be seen, the base of the stand is octagonal and is roofed with Poilite Pantiles whose charming russet-brown colouring is so well known and admired. From this octagonal portion, the tower, for 14 feet 6 inches, becomes square in section and is clad with the new Everite "Big Six," corrugated sheeting which the makers claim to be the strongest corrugated asbestos-cement made. The upper portion (17 feet 6 inches high) is also square, but is erected so that the corners spring from the centre of the sides of that part of the tower immediately below it. This arrangement gives an excellent opportunity for the employment of Poilite straight cover slating for the roofing of the "Big Six" sheeting. The tower is then capped with a steep-pitched roof covered with Poilite diagonal tiles. These are the main features of this exhibit wherein a complete range of Poilite and Everite products are displayed. We believe we are correct when we state that this is the highest stand that has ever been erected in Olympia.

The plans for 44 houses submitted by the Cowpen Coal Co., Ltd., to the Morpeth Rural District Council have been passed by this authority. The houses are to be erected at North Seaton.

The Plymouth Town Council approved of the following plans for houses: two in Thornhill Way, fifteen in Holland Road, and seven in Thornhill Road Home Park Estate.

The Ministry of Health has approved of a grant of a lump sum of £100 per house to private persons in respect to a further 250 houses to be built at Sheffield.

One hundred houses are to be built on the old playing field in Maple Road, Surbiton, opposite St. Andrew's Church. The site is being prepared for building operations.

The Thorne Rural District Council has passed the plans for 530 houses to be erected at Hatfield by the Hatfield Main Colliery Company.

Four hundred houses are to be erected almost at once at Dunscoft, West Riding of Yorkshire. A site for a new school has also been reserved in connection with this housing scheme.

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SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL, DELVILLE WOOD.
HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect. ALFRED TURNER, A.R.A., Sculptor.

Architecture at the R.A.—I.

This year's exhibition of architectural work contains few works which do not attain to a fair measure of merit, but, on the other hand, it is a little wanting in works of great or outstanding interest, a result attributable in the main to the adverse influences of the troubled and difficult era which we are passing through. Architects are also unquestionably affected by unrest as to style and type, and many of them in their work show uncertainty to the extent to which they should follow tradition or, on the other hand, seek their way through the uncharted and difficult paths of modernism in design. Domestic design, which is most strongly influenced and bound up with tradition, is for this reason usually more vivid and convincing than the larger public work, and it is quite possible

that the much greater interest and appreciation of old houses and furniture which is evident among the public has had a very direct and strong influence in the field of domestic architecture.

The President and Mr. Maurice Webb are represented by three drawings. No. 1,272 shows the dining hall of Russell School, Ballards Addington, a quietly designed Georgian interior of pleasing and dignified proportions. No. 1,273 shows the entrance front of the same building with its extended side wings and columned centre feature, a Georgian design which yet recalls in type some of Sir Aston Webb's earlier and freer designs. No. 1,276, "The Rebuilding of the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation's premises in Moorgate Street," forms a six-storeyed building of

quiet design, the angles emphasised by an order with pilasters.

Sir Reginald Blomfield's work comprises No. 1,211, "The Centre Bay of Messrs. Barker's New Premises in Kensington," shown in a large coloured drawing, a well-proportioned and dignified piece of Renaissance design in which no attempt is made to strike a "new"

building in sharp perspective, which emphasises its picturesque quality.

No. 1,283 is only described as a sketch project for London, but its quality and proportions lead us to hope it is a scheme for an actual building we shall hear of at a later date.

Sir Thomas Jackson is represented by a memorial



SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL, DELVILLE WOOD, FRANCE.
HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect. ALFRED TURNER, A.R.A., Sculptor

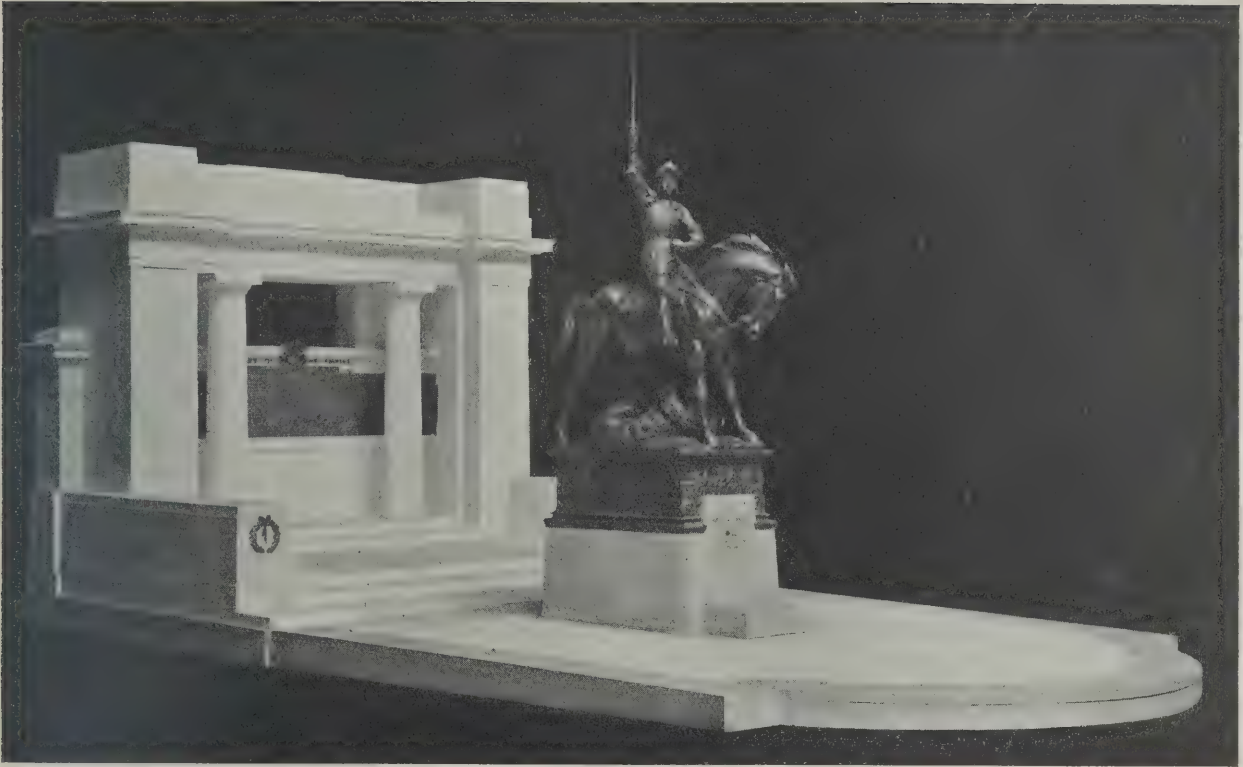
or unusual note. No. 1,323 is a large and beautifully executed $\frac{1}{2}$ " model of the memorial to the missing Menin gate, Ypres, which is both dignified in its simple and correct proportions and admirably dignified and impressive. It takes the form of an elliptically-coffered hall with triple entrance at either end, the centre one forming a large and deep archway. No. 1,324 shows a preliminary study for the same work. We think work of this character will earn a permanent reputation not achieved by design which may strike us at the first glance as more original.

Sir Edwin Lutyens' works include Castle Drogo, a very fine and picturesque mass of masonry rising sheer from base to summit, unbroken by stringcourses or projections, the windows occurring with a pleasing casualness. No. 1,188 shows an end of the same

chapel at Bath Abbey, No. 1,268, and a little chapel for Stapleford Church; both are characteristic of the author.

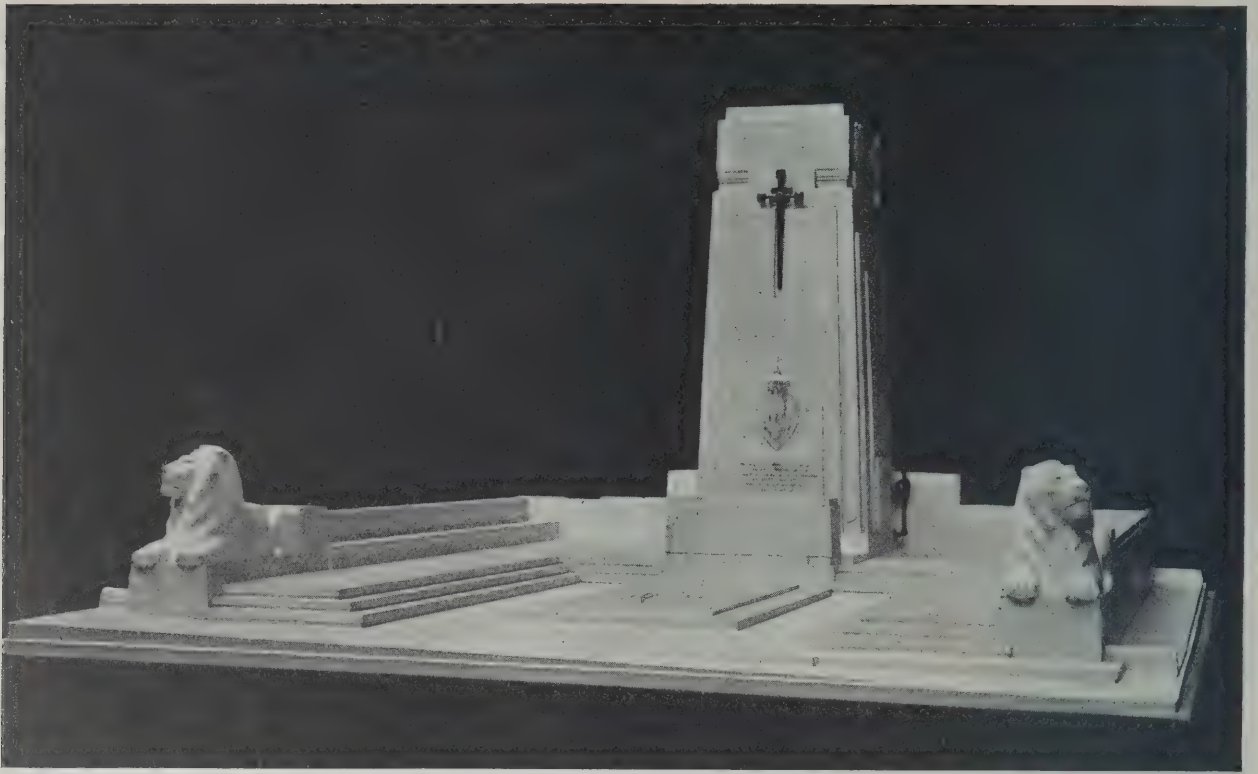
Mr. Gilbert Scott is represented by one drawing, No. 1,246, an interior view of a new church, Ampleforth Abbey, a church apparently divided into bays covered with domical vaults. The drawing hardly does the design justice.

Mr. Herbert Baker sends a view of the garden court of the Bank of England as reconstructed, No. 1,204, a presentation of architecture which suffers from indefinite determination of its rendering. No. 1,311 is the very fine conception of the South African War Memorial, Delville Wood, which we illustrate; the stiling up of the arch on four pedestals over the angle piers is very effective.



CAVALRY MEMORIAL, STANHOPE GATE, HYDE PARK, LONDON.

SIR JOHN BURNET, A.R.A., Architect. CAPTAIN ADRIAN JONES, Sculptor.



THE GLASGOW WAR MEMORIAL. SIR JOHN J. BURNET, A.R.A., Architect. ERNEST GILLICK, Sculptor.

Sir John Burnet is represented by two models, that for the Cavalry War Memorial at Stanhope Gate, No. 1,335, which takes the form of a screen of Doric columns with a mounted figure in front, and No. 1,349, showing the Glasgow War Memorial, and placed in Gallery X. Both are characteristic of Sir John and are illustrated here.

Mr. Curtis Green sends his competitive design for Holt's Shipping Office, No. 1,222, and the garden front of additions to Westfield College, Hampstead, a very plain, severe piece of brickwork. Neither of these works is quite worthy of the architect.

We will now deal with the works shown in the order in which they occur.

No. 1,155, by Mr. P. D. Hepworth, shows a pleasing Warwickshire house. No. 1,163, proposed bank premises, Welwyn, by Mr. Louis de Soissons, is successful both in composition and detail. No. 1,165 shows a view of a charming Sussex house, "Ivories," by Messrs. Brierley & Rutherford, delightful in its

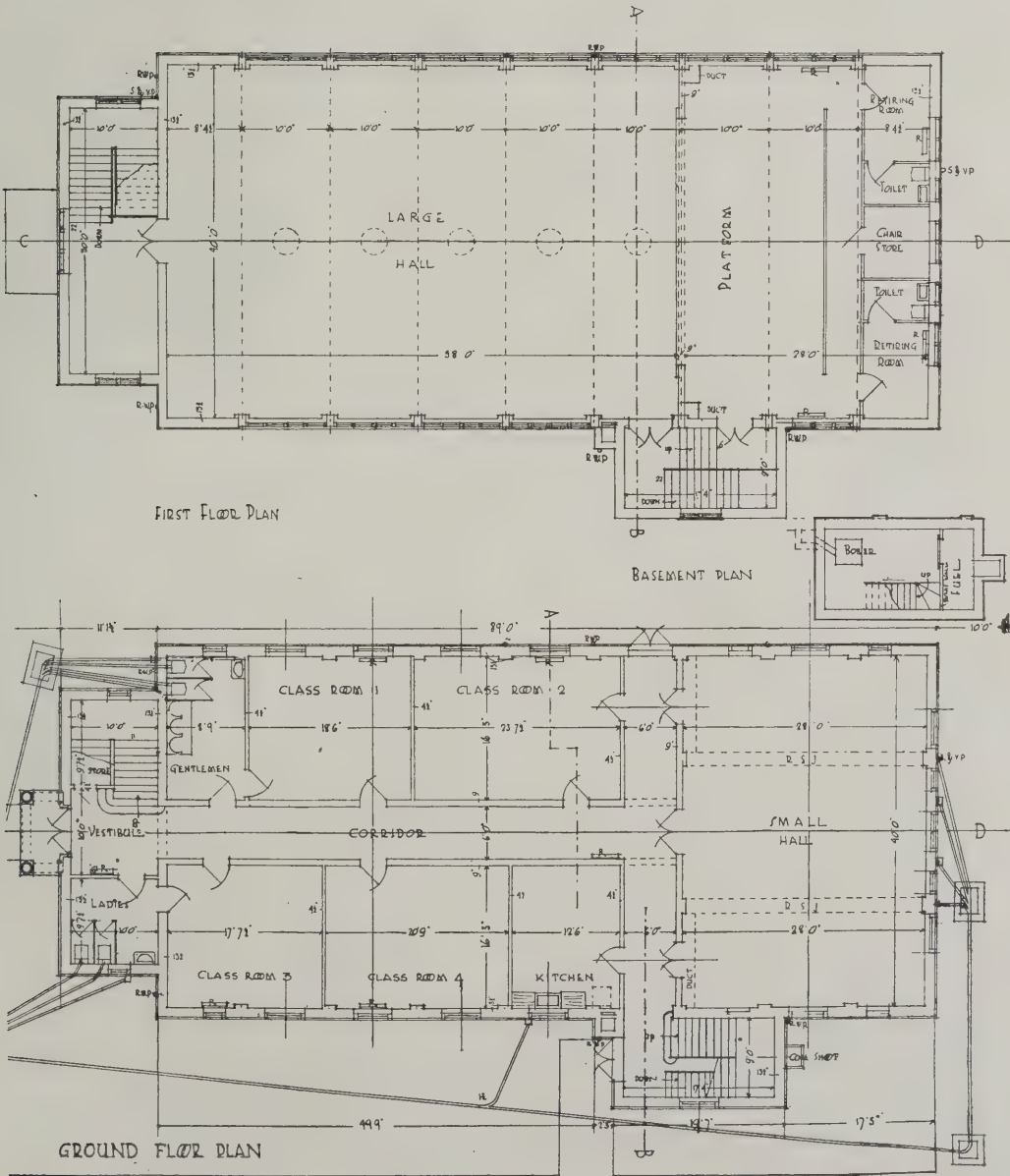
quiet and pleasing dignity. Mr. Guy Dawber's new loggia and terrace to a house at Kingston, No. 1,169, are pleasing and well composed. Nos. 1,144 and 1,154, showing work of Mr. Seth Ward, are both reminiscent of the type of design in vogue some thirty years ago, when picturesqueness was expressed less subtly than the manner which now appeals to us. In No. 1,160, showing new cottages at Lancing, Mr. Cowles Voysey has surely swung unnecessarily towards a formality which is hardly distinguishable from dullness. No. 1,173, Churchill Rectory, Oxford, by Messrs. Knapp Fisher, Powell & Russell; is a good example of the manner in which a house can be made pleasing when devoid of detail. No. 1,178, "The Round House, Littlestone," by Messrs. Cooke & Harrison, is not round, but an irregular polygon in shape. It consists of a central hall with rooms round it, a loggia and garage forming two outstretched wings, altogether forming an interesting example of a building suited to exceptional uses.

Drawings by Inigo Jones.

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire has kindly lent to the Victoria and Albert Museum for exhibition during May and June the very valuable series of drawings by Inigo Jones, from the Library at Chatsworth, comprising designs for scenery and costume for use in the masques performed at the Court of James I. and Charles I. A large portion of this great collection of designs has been preserved intact, for Inigo Jones bequeathed his collection of architectural and stage designs to John Webb, his assistant and nephew by marriage, and from Webb's descendants the bulk of the collection passed ultimately to the Earl of Burlington, and from his famous villa at Chiswick to Chatsworth, where it has been preserved ever since. The Museum owes a debt of gratitude to the present Duke of Devonshire for his generosity in allowing these treasures to be made available for students both of the history of the drama and of the arts of design. From 1604 until 1640, the year preceding the outbreak of the Civil War, Inigo Jones was continuously employed at Court, first in some subordinate capacity, then as Surveyor of Works to Henry Prince of Wales, and finally as Surveyor-General to the King. His genius as an architect during these thirty-six years we recognise in his buildings, but we are not accustomed, as contemporary writers

were, to hail him as a genius of stagecraft as well. Daniel, Davenant, Townshend, and in his earlier masques Ben Jonson, have nothing but the highest praise for his talent and invention. It might be difficult at this distance of time, even in the face of categorical statements of contemporary records such as Royal accounts, to believe that some of their descriptions of scenery, which imply settings and effects needing elaborate preparation, had actually been realised on the stage, but the priceless additional testimony of actual designs from the hand of the great producer himself enables us actually to reconstruct some of the scenes. Nor need we end our reconstruction with scenery, for besides Inigo Jones's pen drawings for the opening scene of Ben Jonson's "Chloridia" or William Davenant's "Luminalia," there are designs for the actual dresses which James and Anne, or Charles and Henrietta Maria, and the lords and ladies at Court wore, a series of some 300 drawings varying from the boldest and roughest first sketch by Jones himself to a detailed and careful design by some assistant for the completed dress.

A catalogue raisonné of these drawings, with 50 reproductions, is being published this year by the Oxford University Press as the twelfth annual volume of the Walpole Society.



HOLY TRINITY PARISH HALL, HOUNSLOW. CYRIL A. FAREY, Architect.

Our Illustrations.

CASTLE DROGO, DEVONSHIRE. SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect.

THE MENIN GATE MEMORIAL, YPRES. SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD, R.A., Architect.

Notes and Comments.

Working Hours.

The Birmingham Association of Building Trades Employers have issued an official reply to the operatives' representatives on the subject of the working hours in its application to the new time of commencement. It is pointed out that the Fraser arbitration award definitely provided for an extension of working hours from 44 to 46½ hours per week during the period of authorised summer-time, and that there could be no variation of this decision save by mutual consent between the employers and operatives in any town or area. The employers' and operatives' assessors and representatives all appended their signatures to the arbitrator's award, with a specific call for the loyal observance of the award and directions contained therein by all parties interested throughout the country. It is noted, further, that at the meeting of the National Wages and Conditions Council in September last the award of the arbitrator was received and ordered to be embodied in the constitution. Therefore, in the absence of mutual consent of employers and operatives, it is clear that the working hours in accordance with the arbitrator's award are 46½ hours, and that any departure is a breach of the constitution. It is very difficult to understand the strong objection manifested to differentiate between the length of the working day in summer and winter time. It seems impossible to believe that the operatives wish to oppose what is apparently so reasonable simply because it is in the interests of the employers. Can it be that they feel they have not sufficient control to equalise summer and winter pay by carrying forward part of the surplus gained by working extra hours in the summer to make up for the shorter winter time?

Flats for the Working Classes.

The housing scheme of the Liverpool Corporation includes the provision of flats to be erected in Queen's Drive, Mossley Hill, and seven members of the Liverpool Architectural Society have been asked to prepare schemes, to cost £10,000, the seven of which will produce over 100 houses. The average cost would be £700 each. The flats are to be planned on somewhat similar lines to those of the Hampstead Garden Suburb, and to meet the requirements of those who would prefer a compact flat to a house with a small garden. Liverpool has made much progress in dealing with housing conditions which were exceptionally bad, but which under its vigorous and well thought out policy are being rapidly improved.

Evictions.

A request, arising out of recent criticisms in Parliament, having been made for returns from Nottingham County Court district regarding the number of orders for possession of houses made since August, 1923, and the number of cases in which has been necessary the issue of warrants for suspension, Judge Turner, who has jurisdiction over the district, stated, at a sitting of the Court at Nottingham recently, that of 86 cases in which orders were made, only 4 necessitated the issue of warrants. In none of these cases were people turned into the streets. There were certain people in every area, he observed, who never paid rent if they could avoid it. Every consideration had been extended to tenants, but whether tenants had shown the same consideration was, he added, a very different matter. Cases had come to his knowledge where grants had been made by the Poor Law Authorities for rent, and landlords had never seen the money. He thought the returns showed that before statements were made in the House of Commons regarding the circumstances of people, they should be founded on fact.

We are glad to see this impartial statement on the

subject of evictions, which we have no doubt would correspond with the findings of other County Court judges all over the country. The average tenant is, unfortunately, not too scrupulous when he thinks he can arouse prejudice by loose statements, but pronouncements like that we have quoted should be well weighed and considered by those who in attempting to build up a new heaven and earth would upset the established order of the world we live in.

The Threatened Strike.

It seems unfortunately probable that the threatened strike in the building industry may take place, as the masters say they cannot offer more than ½d. an hour increase and the operatives are standing out for 2d. We are convinced that a great part of the trouble is caused by the great disproportion of wages paid in protected as compared with unprotected industries. We are also convinced that should the cost of building be further increased, the result will be the stoppage of a great amount of work which would otherwise be put in hand; so that even should the operatives succeed in gaining their point, their case would be worse and not better than it is. It is a tragedy that the workers in every trade should not be clearly told by their leaders that the difficulty in the way of meeting their claims is that caused by insufficient production. Were this difficulty solved by agreement, there would in many cases be comparatively little difficulty in meeting the men's demands, but until it is no real progress can be made and no real solution can be reached. Till then we shall frequently find that wages are lower than we wish to see them, but that it is clearly impossible to increase them.

Houses for Sale.

A good deal of capital is being made by the Government that more than half of the houses erected under the late Government's housing scheme are built to sell, whereas it is stated that what is wanted are houses for letting. But it should be obvious that if a considerable section of people can be induced to buy houses it must relieve the demand for houses which are to let. It may not appear to be direct aid, but it is indirect aid of the most valuable nature. It is conceded by nearly everyone that it would be an admirable thing if every man owned his own house, and every inducement to encourage him to do so is a direct advantage to the community. It does not seem to us to matter in the least whether houses are built to sell or to let; and if a subsidy is to be paid, we would far sooner see the capitalised amount paid to those who were willing to undertake the responsibility of ownership than paid as a contribution towards the rent out of the rates. It is true that the question of raising the bulk of the capital would still remain, but it is questionable whether a sufficient effort has been made to meet this difficulty, because our authorities have assumed that there was little chance of dealing with the problem on the basis of ownership. After all, interest on the capital expended may be taken as equivalent to rent, and with the inducement of ownership thrown in there would no longer be the same disposition to cut down payments to a minimum, as each additional payment made would help to secure complete ownership.

Competition News.

Mr. James Lochhead of Hamilton, architect, President of the Glasgow Institute of Architects, has been appointed assessor for an architectural competition in connection with the proposed erection of halls at Bridgeton. The premiums offered amount to £375 in value and will be allotted to designs placed first, second, third and fourth in order of merit. The cost of the buildings is not to exceed £25,000.

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CASTLE
SIR EDWIN

T, MAY 2nd, 1924.



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GC DEVONSHIRE.

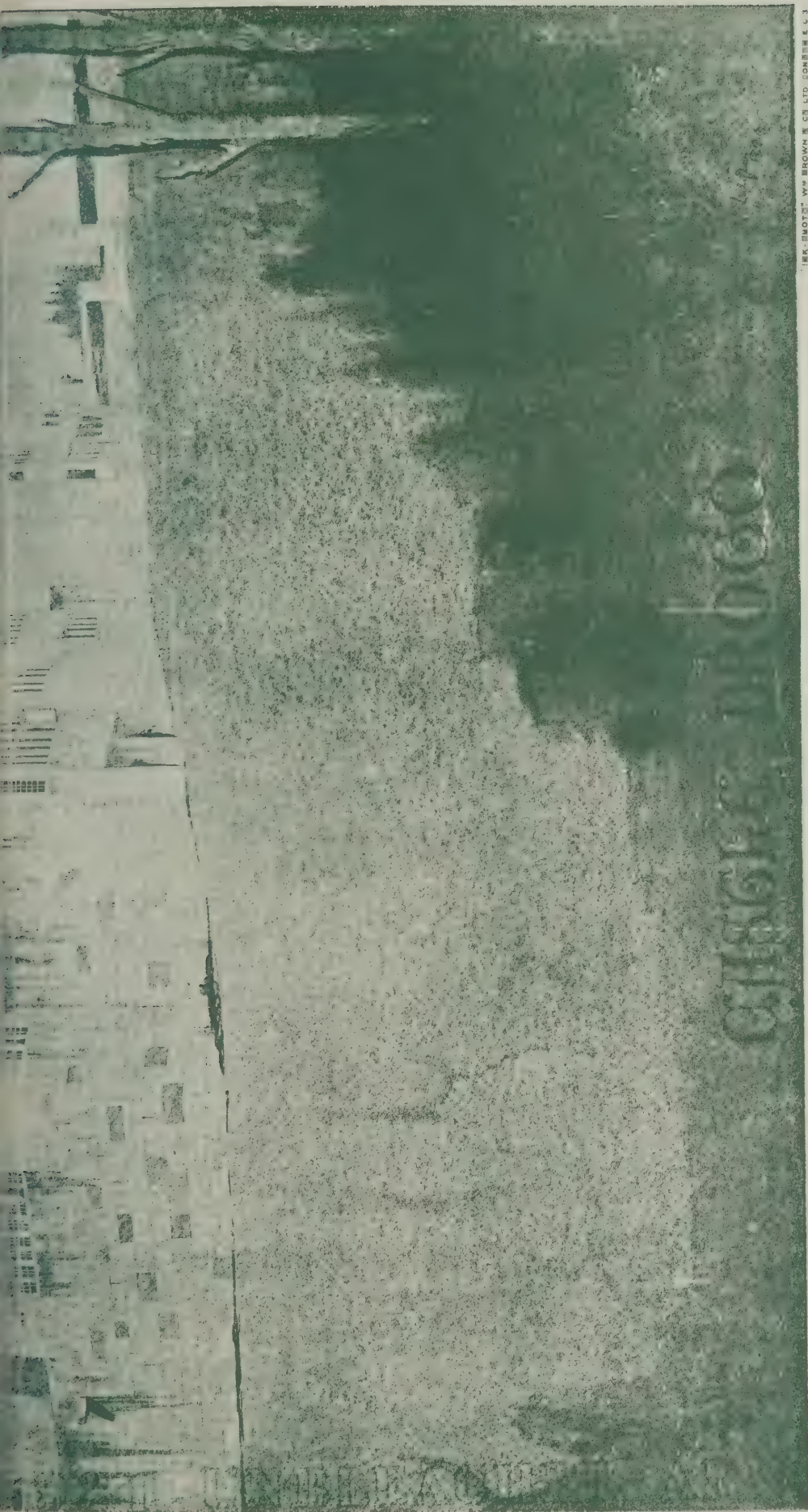
YNS, R.A., ARCHITECT.

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THE ARCHITECT, MAY 2nd, 1924.





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CASTLE DROGO, DEVONSHIRE.

SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.

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THE MENIN GATE

SIR REGINALD

MAY 2nd, 1924.



Reginald Blomfield

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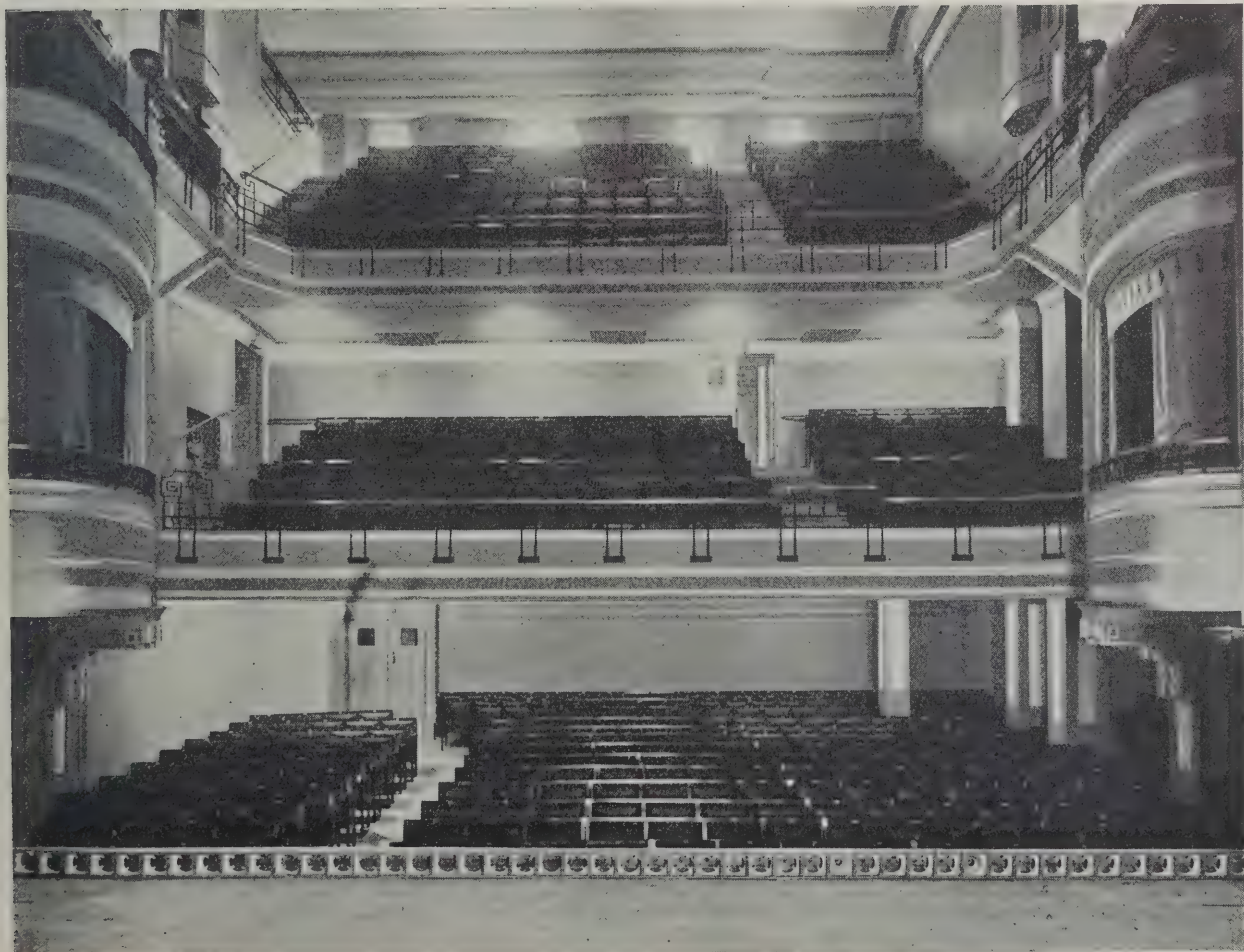
MEMORIAL. YPRES.

BLMFIELD, R.A., ARCHITECT.

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EXTERIOR VIEW.

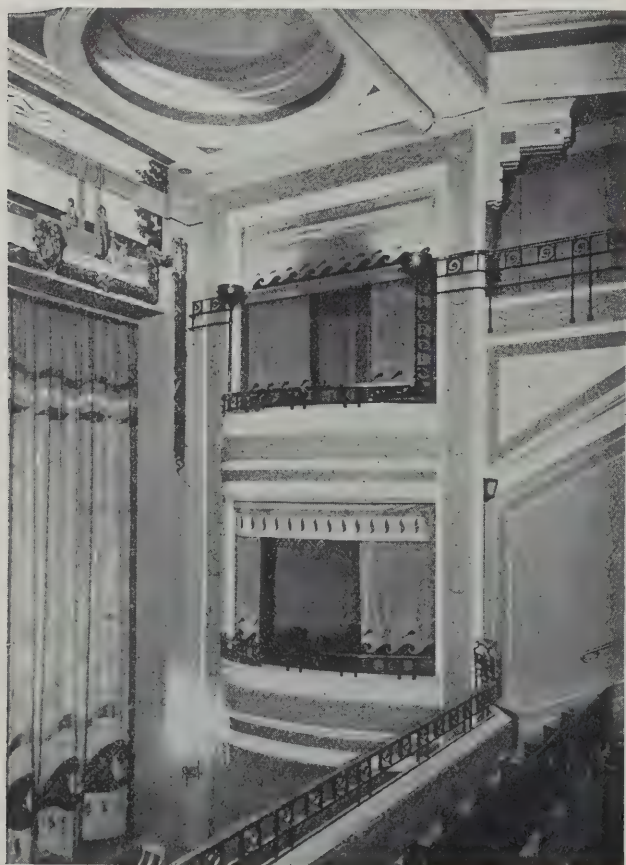


NEW FORTUNE THEATRE, RUSSELL STREET, DRURY LANE. E. SCHAUFELBERG, Architect.



BOX OFFICE.

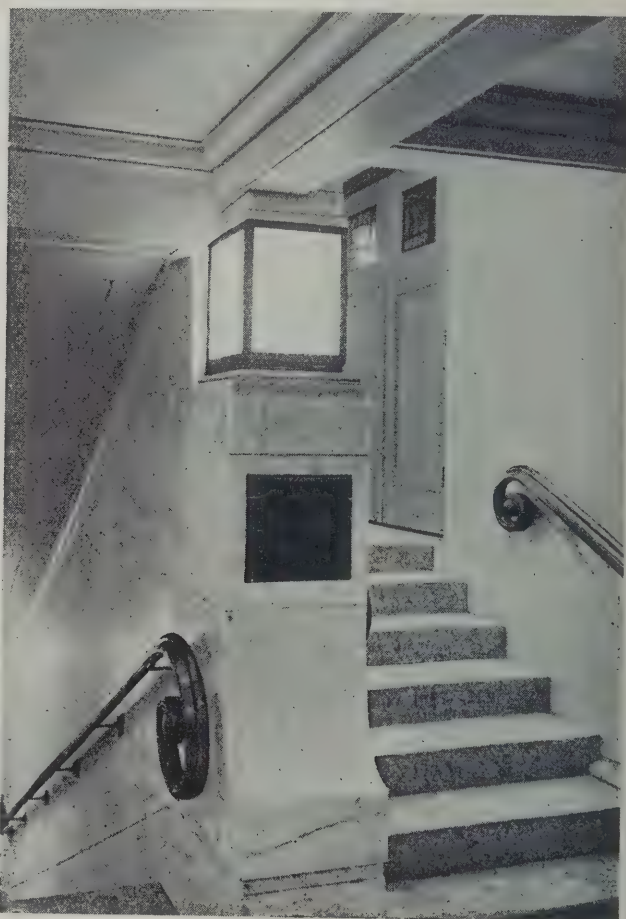
Situated close to Drury Lane Theatre, the exterior strikes a new and attractive note in what cannot be described as very charming surroundings. The entrance faces the Ionic colonnade of Drury Lane Theatre, and is executed in rendered concrete with decorated



THEATRE FROM THE CIRCLE.

sheet lead bands. The interior is rather disappointing. The passages are narrow and the stairs steep owing to some difficulties in connection with the Scottish National Church in Crown Court. The architect apparently has been forced to use on one side some very bulky columns to carry the dress circle and gallery. This feature is decidedly unfortunate, as it seems to throw the whole auditorium out of balance. There is no centre gangway in the stalls; this is perhaps an advantage from the actor's point of view, and specially so in this theatre, as the total capacity is estimated at about 700.

With regard to the decorations we are inclined to think that two minds have found expression in this matter. The proscenium arch is decorated by a blue and yellow frieze of very bold design. Above this in complete contrast—and we cannot say very happy contrast—a fresco illustrating figures, marble garden architectural features, and a central fountain, has been painted in a highly finished style. The two decorative motifs one above the other are thus in complete contrast, both in character and style of execution. The boxes are decorated in harmony with the bolder decoration of the proscenium frieze.



VESTIBULE, SHOWING STAIRWAY.

From the playgoer's point of view the theatre leaves nothing to be desired. We have made a most careful inspection and have tested the sight line from many positions, and have found that without a single exception every seat open for public sale has a first class view of the stage. The seats are comfortable—a tall man can sit with comfort because the space between each row is sufficient.

The electrical installation is all controlled from the stage, and we were informed that the same was truly wonderful. When the theatre is opened to the public in about a month's time we shall have a better opportunity of judging for ourselves. An arrangement has been installed in which it will be possible to project landscape and seascape views on to a screen and use the same instead of a set piece background. Such views will be in the nature of every changing as the time of day proceeds. This invention, as also the wonderful electrical installation, we are informed comes from abroad. We cannot but think that if British manufacturers and engineers were given some encouragement they would be able to produce equally good results.

Book Reviews.

Jerusalem. A historical Sketch by Lionel Cust. Illustrated by Major Benton Fletcher. Published by Messrs. A. & C. Black, Ltd., Soho Square, London. 7s. 6d. net.

Except for the 24 illustrations, this book cannot be said to make any direct appeal to architects. We had occasion some months ago to review a book entitled "Luxor and its Temples," illustrated by the same artist. We have no hesitation in stating that in our opinion Major Benton Fletcher has given us a far better collection of illustrations in this book on "Jerusalem." All the twenty-four views are of a very high artistic quality. Naturally some we prefer to others, but, though preference is founded on the choice and selection of the subjects illustrated rather than from any technical or artistic superiority, the publishers have supported the artist in a wholehearted fashion. The reproductory process blocks have been wonderfully made. The screen has been removed from the whites and high lights, but none of the defects which often accompany such an erasion are visible in any of these illustrations. The delicate quality of the pencil work, is of course, greatly increased by this very high standard quality in the reproductory blocks. Some idea of the quality and merit of the illustrations can be gathered from the two examples we are permitted to give through the courtesy of the publishers.

The text is, as the title infers, a historical sketch of Jerusalem. From cover to cover the reader is fascinated. The story of Jesus Christ is most reverently touched upon, and the author can be congratulated upon the able way in which he has dealt with this part of the history of Jerusalem. All through the sketch the author has avoided channels that might have led him to fields away from the main subject of the book. All who intended to travel to the Holy City should read this historical sketch, which includes amongst the twenty-four illustrations the following, which we consider to possess special charm and ability:—(1) The Garden of Gethsemane; (5) View of the Haram Esh Sherif from the Mount of Olives; (9) David Street with houses of the Saracenic Period; (15) Via Dolorosa Jerusalem; (17) The Church of the Holy Sepulchre; (24) The Mount of Olives.

Masters of Architecture Series. "Nicholas Hawksmoor." By H. S. Goodhart-Rendel. London: Ernest Benn, Ltd., 8, Bouverie Street. 10s. 6d. net.

This review of Nicholas Hawksmoor's work forms the best of the series yet published, as Mr. Goodhart-Rendel's letterpress forms a well-expressed and interesting analysis, and the illustrations are better and clearer than those with which former volumes of the series are illustrated.

We fully agree with Mr. Goodhart-Rendel in thinking that Hawksmoor is in all probability responsible for many of the later designs attributed to Wren, notably that of the tower of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and also with his opinion as to the relative merits of Vanbrugh and Hawksmoor's work, and the manner in which the former architect was dependent on Hawksmoor for the execution of some of his greatest schemes.

We do not agree with him in his somewhat unstinted admiration of many of Hawksmoor's buildings. We should describe St. Mary Woolnoth as a building showing much ingenious and clever design in its detail, notably in the design of the deep niches facing Lombard Street, and in much of its interior design. On the other hand, its general external design seems to us not only heavy and forbidding, but absolutely ugly. It was natural that Hawksmoor should have attempted a broad feature at the west end, but it was absolutely unnecessary and disturbing to finish a broad feature by what might be the crowning features of two distinct towers. The exterior of Christ Church, Spitalfields, would, we think, be characterised by a majority of architects, as it is by the public, as being appallingly hideous, though we admit that a great mass of stone like this church cannot fail in a certain impressiveness on account of its enormous scale and size. Hawksmoor's screen and cupola to Queen's College, Oxford, will, to the average man, be instanced as his most pleasing work; the cupola, in especial, is an exceedingly good piece of composition.

St. Alphege, Greenwich, especially in its interior treatment, and St. Anne's, Limehouse, are probably to the average man the most pleasing of Hawksmoor's larger works, though in spite of much interesting detail they will always be *caviare* except to the analytically-minded architect.

A layout plan of the Park House Estate, Earsdon, has been prepared and the housing plots available number 336. This plan was submitted to the Urban District Council at their last meeting.

R.I.B.A. Council Nominations

The following are the list of Members nominated by the Council to serve for 1924-25:—

President: J. A. Gotch, F.S.A. Vice-Presidents: Major H. Barnes, H. T. Buckland, E. G. Dawber, F.S.A., Sir E. Lutyens, R.A. Honorary Secretary: A. Keen. Members of Council: S. D. Adshead, M.A., H. V. Ashley, Sir J. J. Burnet, A.R.A., W. Cave, Major H. C. Corlette, O.B.E., F.S.A., H. P. B. Downing, F.S.A., Sir B. F. Fletcher, H. M. Fletcher, M.A. Cantab., G. W. Fraser, W. C. Green, A.R.A., F. Jones, J. Keppie, A.R.S.A., H. V. Lanchester, T. R. Milburn, E. C. P. Monson, W. G. Newton, M.A., T. T. Rees, E. J. Sadgrove, G. G. Scott, R.A., Sir A. B. Thomas, P. E. Thomas, O.B.E., F. T. Verity, M. E. Webb, D.S.O., M.A.

Associate Members of Council: H. Bagenal, D.C.M., H. C. Bradshaw, L. H. Bucknell, Prof. L. B. Budden, M.A., J. A. Slater, M.A., M. T. Waterhouse, M.C., H. A. Welch, Prof. J. H. Worthington, M.A.

Exhibition of Architectural Draughtsmanship at the Olympia.

I would like herewith personally to thank all those friends who kindly lent me their original drawings for the exhibition of Architectural Draughtsmanship which I had the pleasure of arranging at the Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia on behalf of this journal. I have always had a high appreciation of the work of all the artists who contributed to this exhibition, and I experience a sense of regret when the drawings of each Royal Academy exhibition disappear from public view. The beautiful expression of a building in any medium has for me something which no pictorial drawing can equal. Whilst I felt quite convinced in my own mind that the seventy-two drawings hung in this exhibition were of a very high quality, it was gratifying to receive from so many members of the profession expressions of praise and offers of kindly support should an occasion arise again.

HUGH W. MARTIN-KAYE.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MAY 2, 1874.

THE NEW LAW COURTS.

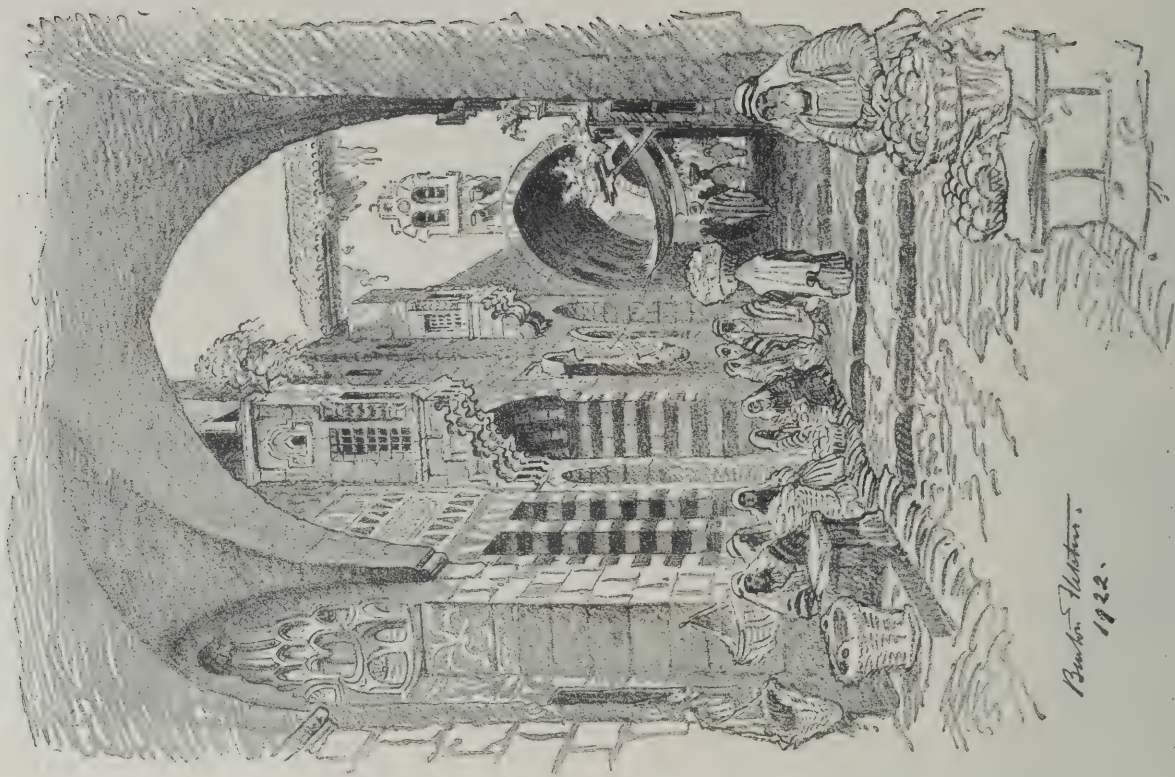
On Friday in last week, when the vote to complete the sum of £80,000 for the New Law Courts was brought before the House of Commons,

Sir G. Bowyer took occasion to complain of the delay in their construction, and the consequent loss, in the shape of interest paid to the country, as one of the most remarkable instances of mismanagement that had occurred in the national history. He recollected, he said, that when he was in Parliament some years ago a design for the new courts had been exhibited in the library in which utility seemed to have been completely lost sight of and the picturesque and ornamental aimed at, without, however, the attainment of any general beauty of design. There were what appeared like two rows of almshouses on each side, with numbers of chimneys and buttresses, and he should very much like to know whether that design, which met with no approval either from the press or the public generally, was to be carried into effect. For his own part he should infinitely prefer a plain, business-like building, such as Somerset House or the Law Courts in Dublin. The designs were all too ecclesiastical in their character. There was plenty of time to reconsider the question, and he trusted that the present Government would distinguish themselves by adopting some economical plan which would give us a business-like, simple and noble structure, instead of the one which he feared was to be followed.

Lord H. Lennox said he would not follow the hon. baronet into the question of taste, upon which they might possibly differ. The design selected, however, was the design of Mr. Street, to which the juries had awarded the prize. A prize had also been awarded to Mr. Barry, but as that gentleman had the erection of the National Gallery on his hands, he preferred that the matter should be left entirely to Mr. Street. He was happy to tell the hon. baronet that it was far too late for the First Commissioner to attempt to reconsider the decision arrived at even if he had the audacity to attempt it. He agreed with the hon. baronet that great loss had already accrued to the nation and the Treasury by the delay which had occurred, and that being so, he did not see how matters would be mended by holding the matter still further in abeyance and breaking a contract which had already been signed.

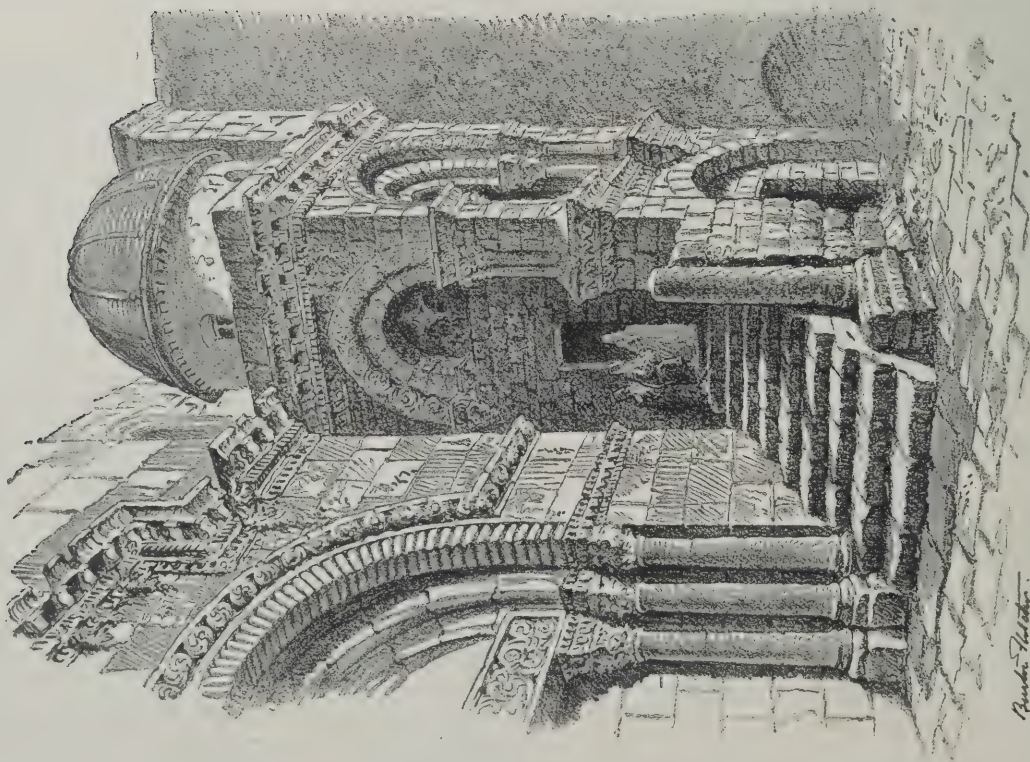
Sir G. Bowyer said he had not suggested any lengthened delay. He believed that three weeks or a month would be sufficient for all that he contemplated.

The vote was then agreed to.



Benton Fletcher.
1922.

DAVID STREET, WITH HOUSES OF THE SARACENIC PERIOD.



Benton Fletcher.
1922.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE:
CHAPEL OF THE AGONY OF MARY.

From a recently published book on "Jerusalem," a Historical Sketch by LIONEL CUST.
Illustrated by MAJOR BENTON FLETCHER. Published by A. & C. BLACK.



DINING ROOM, "NORMANS" RUSPER, SUSSEX. GUILFORD DUDLEY, Architect. See page 301.

Traffic and the Roads.

The third of a series of four lectures arranged under the auspices of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants Professional Union was held at the Building Exhibition, Olympia, on Wednesday, April 23. An address was given by Mr. H. V. Lanchester, F.R.I.B.A., Past President of the Town Planning Institute, who said that, considering our English roads, whether from the point of view of the motorist or others using them, it makes for clearness to begin with the briefest possible summary of their history. This not only gives interest to the roads as we find them to-day, but also provides useful guidance as to the principles to be borne in mind in the needed reconstruction of our road system.

When the Romans took up the great work of organising the country in accordance with their political system, they planned an entirely new system of paved roads, primarily for the movement of troops, but at the same time so complete as to be more than adequate to other requirements. As we are aware, these roads were fairly direct in their general alignment and, with a few exceptions, absolutely straight from camp to camp, placed a day's march (about 20 miles) apart. A map indicating all the known roads shows the country well served with routes most skilfully planned except from one point of view, now of much more importance than then—namely, that of gradient, which was obviously a minor consideration with so little wheeled traffic.

While many of these roads have remained permanently employed, large sections of the Roman scheme have gone out of use, and can be traced only by fragments to be found here and there. Not until Tudor times did we recover anything resembling the unity of control exercised by the Romans, and even then nothing equivalent to their efficiency in sustained organisation. Of course, with increasing population and production the country became covered with a network of routes, but many of these were only packhorse ways, and, the art of roadmaking having lapsed, main routes were often in a hopeless state where natural conditions were unfavourable.

A number of experiments in road surfacing carried on for about a century finally crystallised in the definite specification of macadam, and a reliable surface capable of carrying the increasing wheeled traffic came into general use. With easier and more comfortable transit, travel increased rapidly and an immense number of coaches and postchaises sped along our main roads.

Macadam, Telford and other leading engineers were engaged on this work, and the return for the capital was provided by

means of tolls. The primitive type of gate, the "turnpike," gave the name to these, and the period during which these roads were built has been termed the "turnpike" age. In the midst of this activity the railroad and steam engine came on the scene, and after a few years of incredulity everyone became convinced that the day of the road was over. Roads ceased to be a profitable investment for capital, which was promptly transferred to rail enterprises. Not only this, but on the railroads securing popular favour railway schemes were often laid out in a manner detrimental to future road development, particularly in the neighbourhood of the towns. Outside the towns things remained in this position until towards the end of the nineteenth century, when the development of the combustion engine as the driving power for road vehicles brought the road into enormously increased use, and demanded a reconsideration of the problems of road planning and construction.

The first of these to arise, that of dust, was not a new one. In coaching days the Bath Road was kept watered from end to end, but a better solution was now found, and, without recapitulating the recent history of roadmaking, it will suffice to affirm that we can now form roads physically and economically suitable for motor traffic.

Before passing on to the problems that now confront us, I must add just a few words about town roads. Here also the eighteenth century provided us with good schemes and spacious roads, and much of the subsequent deterioration of these, including encroachments, took place in early Victorian times when the railway filled the public eye. The road plan of London south of the Thames dates from this period, and Great Dover Street is a good example of a by-pass road. Then look at the fine route laid out from the City to Paddington, originally 150 feet between frontages. Edinburgh and Bath may also be quoted as notable examples, but many of our smaller towns retained their mediæval plan, and not even this at its original standard, market places having been filled in with buildings and the roads having suffered from gradual encroachments, particularly near the busy centres.

Our future roads are now being dealt with by two methods. Road systems are being framed under town planning or, more comprehensively, under regional planning schemes, while large arterial roads are being planned and constructed to connect towns at a considerable distance from each other.

In the first case a careful study has to be made of the existing roads, their use, their adequacy and their connections. The trend of development has also to receive consideration, and the



FIREPLACE IN HALL, "NORMANS" RUSPER, SUSSEX. GUILFORD DUDLEY, Architect. See page 301.

new road pattern built up on these factors, providing for the relief of overcharged routes, safety at junction points and a free movement of traffic between industrial and residential areas, so that the business of the district may be carried on without the handicap of inadequate communications.

In the second case the determining factor is mainly the economics of transport, whether a road service can operate advantageously as against the existing railway facilities. Per ton-mile the road is at a disadvantage, but this may be out-balanced by economies in transshipment and terminal collection and delivery. For the shorter distances and for some classes of goods the case for the roads may be regarded as established, but for 100 miles and over it is possible that further investigations are needed before such roads can be justified on economic grounds. Undoubtedly a good case could be made out at the moment, but the railways are short of plant, and it is also questionable if they are working at a maximum of efficiency and a minimum of profit, as they might be capable of doing in competition with an alternative means of transport.

In order that these main arterials should answer their purpose their design has to take in some measure the character of the railway, by going over or under important cross routes and by-passing intermediate towns and villages so that these connect by means of short branches. They can only to a modified extent be regarded as developing the districts through which they pass.

The regional and local roads, on the other hand, must be designed to provide for the development of the adjacent areas, and must therefore follow as closely as possible the natural levels: embankments and, to some extent, cuttings making it difficult to use frontages for building purposes and awkward to arrange the connections with side roads. Therefore the alignment of these in hilly ground should be governed by the contours. Where an arterial road is brought into a regional system it is often worth while to provide sufficient width for a central and two side roads, the latter for the local traffic, thus reducing the number of crossings on the central road, and allowing these crossings to be placed out of line with the openings into side roads. The regional plan is best prepared in diagram form, giving the traffic routes demanded, and then after the road lines have received such modifications as the formation of the ground and the disposition of industries and properties prescribe, there remains the important question of road junctions. On the design of these a great deal depends, both in regard to smooth working with a minimum of supervision and freedom from danger points. Where main routes cross each other ample space should be provided, and no building or other obstruction to a clear view extending to a radius of at least 40 yards from the crossing point should be permitted, but such crossing out to be eliminated as far as practicable, and it is better that subsidiary routes should enter and leave the main one at different points, say about 100 yards apart, while the small branch road is better with a funnel mouth

and central island so as to check the speed of traffic coming into the main route. Where a record of accident is kept many of these are found to be due to excessive speed when emerging from a side road, either with the intention of directly crossing the high road or of turning to the right along it.

In planning these regional road systems it will often be found that the existing railways add greatly to the difficulties, in regard both to levels and the cost of bridges. It is, in this country, practically impossible to obtain any modification in the level of a railway or any bridge reconstruction other than at the cost of the Local Authority. The law in this respect operates most unfairly, and it is in my opinion in urgent need of amendment. If 80 years ago a railway company provided a bridge, say, 16 feet span over a country lane, and this lane has now become a busy highway, there is no power to compel it to rebuild this bridge in accordance with the increased needs, though the railway has secured its share of the expansion of business that development brings about.

The U.S.A. is very much in advance of us in this matter. Not only can the authorities demand a reasonable alteration in the rail level, but they can also claim a proportion, which varies in different States, of the cost of bridge building and road grading. One may safely say that, but for these enactments, very little of the work done towards eliminating level crossings in American towns would have been accomplished.

We have so far been considering areas in course of development, but we must not overlook the traffic congestion in our great cities and the possible remedies for this.

Motor transport has at least doubled the capacity of our streets, and if all the traffic could be carried on at the uniform higher speed of the motor, there would be a still further gain. The abolition of the horse-drawn vehicle has been frequently advocated, and though this must take place sooner or later, it is still felt that too great a hardship to certain classes of business would result from it. An intermediate course is open—namely, the exclusion of the horse from the main roads; but this would involve a degree of supervision that renders it economically doubtful. It may be assumed that for the moment neither of these alternatives is likely to meet with acceptance.

During the nineteenth century many important streets and street widenings were carried out, not always very successfully in view of the obsession at that time in favour of connecting to existing ganglia, such as the Bank, Piccadilly Circus, Charing Cross and Victoria, which have now become points at which it is most difficult to devise an orderly system. We are at present continuing this method and seem to be unable to profit by past experience. The proposed St. Paul's Bridge would result in a confusion of traffic at the east end of St. Paul's at least equal to that at any of the above-mentioned centres.

Scotland Yard has practically ignored all proposals for "one-way" routes and the "gyratory" system, both of which have proved useful in a number of cases in other countries. Trafalgar

Square at first glance appears to be an ideal position for the purpose in view, but on examination it will be found necessary to prohibit traffic from entering it via Northumberland Avenue, and from leaving it via the Mall. These sacrifices, however, could easily be made and a marked acceleration secured as the result. The authorities have apparently never understood the recognised principles on which the system is based, and a recent effort in Birmingham exhibited almost every possible defect.

I have left till last perhaps the most important point in regard to all our schemes for the organisation of traffic and provision of suitable roads—that is, the importance of having a clear and accurate census of the existing traffic in and out of our great cities.

Some fifteen years ago one of the most valuable activities of the Traffic Branch of the Board of Trade, now merged in the Ministry of Transport, was the preparation of a traffic census of London, which appeared in the annual reports. Colonel Hellard, who was then in charge, based on this census a series of proposals for arterial routes, many of which have been accepted as the general lines for the roads now being constructed around London. His plan was considered and amplified by the London Society, and the artistic map issued by them some four years ago shows a fine scheme for the suburban areas.

Unfortunately, though traffic is now both greatly increased and changed in character, no census has recently been taken either on the comprehensive lines of Col. Hellard's or in the more detailed manner needful to justify specific proposals for improvement; consequently we are left in the air without data by which these can be criticised, and one scheme after another is put forward empirically, without any evidence as to its necessity or desirability.

We seem unable to profit by experience, and while we deplore the mistakes of the past, neglect to examine how these came about and continue in the same haphazard way, as if scientific investigation were a fiction, or, presuming it exists, as if it were not applicable to the affairs of everyday life, such as the improvement of our streets and the organisation of traffic and transport. The first need is a new and more detailed census taken at all important points, classifying vehicles by type and destination, from which diagrams can be prepared showing the volume of traffic along all main routes. With this available it would be comparatively easy to decide the effect of opening new routes or widening existing ones.

A lively discussion followed, and the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. G. Marlow Reed, of Messrs. John Knowles & Co., and Mr. John Mitchell, General Secretary of the A.S.A.P.U., was heartily responded to.

The illustrations of the "Normans" Ruser, Sussex, given on pages 329, 330 and below were unfortunately not included in our review of the building published last week.

R.I.B.A.

PAST PRESIDENTS AND UNIFICATION.

We have read with great satisfaction that the Councils of the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects have agreed upon a complete scheme for the amalgamation of the two bodies.

In our opinion this amalgamation will immensely strengthen the influence and authority of the Royal Institute, and we hope that it will receive the undivided support of our members.

For many years this question has been under discussion, and a splendid opportunity has now arisen to settle on broad lines the difficulties of organisation and administration which the existence of two societies doing similar work has caused in the past.

To secure the representation of the profession by one great Institute is an ideal we have always hoped to see realised, and we desire most earnestly to appeal to members to support the Council's scheme in every way in their power.

Signed—Aston Webb, President 1902-1904; T. E. Collcutt, President 1906-1908; Leonard Stokes, President 1910-1912; Reginald T. Blomfield, President 1912-1914; John W. Simpson, President 1919-1921; Paul Waterhouse, President 1921-1923.

STREET ARCHITECTURE MEDAL.

The Jury appointed by the Council of the R.I.B.A. for the award of the R.I.B.A. Street Architecture Medal has been reconstituted as follows: The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres (Hon. Fellow), Chairman; Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, President R.I.B.A., F.S.A.; Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A., F.R.I.B.A.; Mr. E. Guy Dawber, Vice-President R.I.B.A., F.S.A.; Mr. Walter J. Tapper, F.R.I.B.A.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

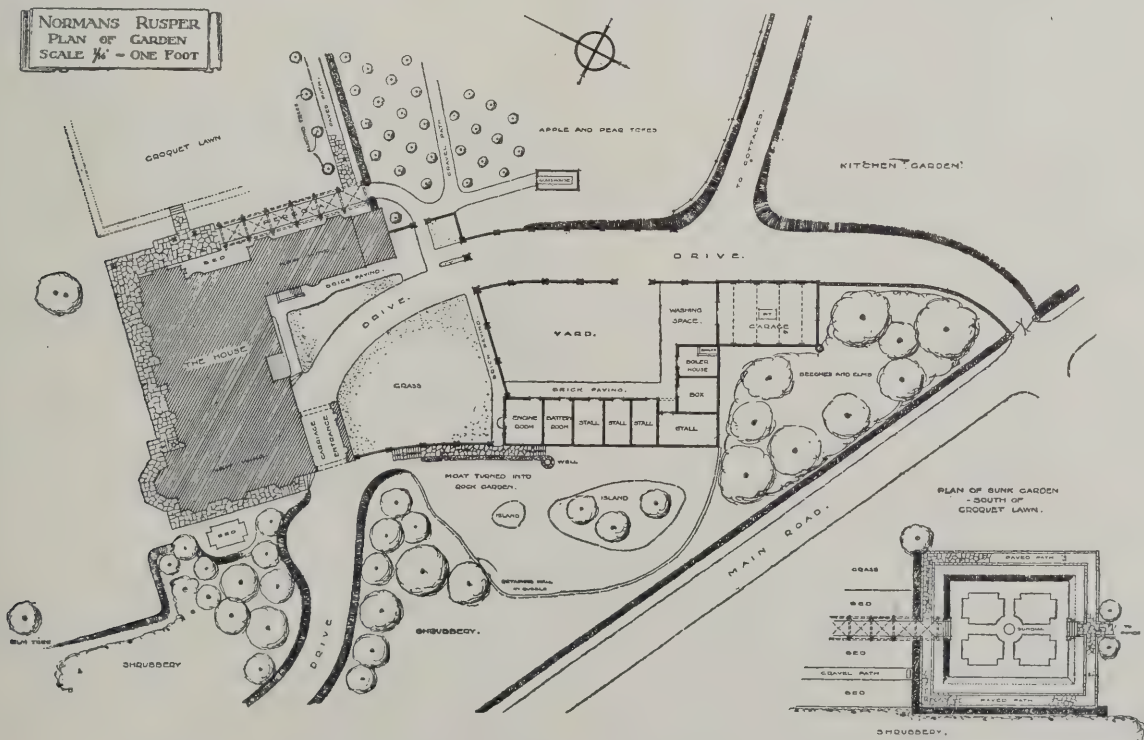
The Executive Committee have great pleasure in announcing that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has graciously consented to become Patron of the International Congress on Architectural Education to be held in London from July 28 to August 1 next.

LECTURES.

Mr. Sydney Perks, F.S.A., has altered the title of the lecture which he will deliver at the R.I.B.A. General Meeting on Monday, May 19, at 8 o'clock, from "London Town Planning Schemes 1666 and After" to "The Scheme for a Thames Embankment after the Great Fire of London."

At the R.I.B.A. General Meeting on Monday, June 23, at 8 o'clock, Professor Sir Rodolfo Lanciani, K.C.V.O., of Rome, will deliver a lecture on "The Influence of English and Scottish Workers upon the Development of Archaeological Discoveries in Rome."

To provide work for the unemployed, the Electricity Committee of the Fulham Borough Council have decided to paint all the electric light standards in the borough.



'NORMANS' RUSPER. PLAN OF GARDEN LAYOUT. GUILFORD DUDLEY, Architect. See page 360.

International Cement Congress, Olympia, London.

London, April 22-24, 1924.

The delegates and visitors were received by Major James Petrie, O.B.E., etc., president of the Institution of Structural Engineers, in a reception held in the small conference hall at the Building Trades Exhibition, Olympia. On Wednesday, April 23, the delegates and party visited the Kent Portland Cement Works, and on April 24 they visited the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. On the first day of the conference a number of papers were given and discussed from 3 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., amongst which were "The Modulus of Density of Concrete as a Means of Maintaining Uniformity Throughout," by Alfred S. Grunspan, B.Sc., A.C.G.I., A.M.Inst. C.E.; "Measurement of Air Supply of Rotary Kiln," by Francis Lindstead, of the British Portland Cement Research Association; "Concrete Block Construction," by Colonel H. Vaughan Kent, C.B., M.Inst.C.E., etc. (we have already, in our issue of April 25, reported upon this interesting paper); "Silicate of Soda and Concrete with Special Reference to the Treatment of Roads, Floors, etc., for the Prevention of Erosion and Dusting," by L. A. Munro, B.A., F.I.C.; "Some Disturbing Factors in Cement Setting," by H. K. G. Bamber, M.I.Struct.E., A.Inst.C.E., etc.; "Portland Cement in Sea Water," by F. E. Wentworth-Sheilds, O.B.E., M.Inst.C.E. (past president of the Institution of Structural Engineers); "The Viscosity of the Raw Material Slurry used in the Manufacture of Portland Cement," by J. W. Christelow, B.Sc., A.I.C., and E. Bowes; "Some New Laws in Connection with Fine Grinding," by Chas. E. Blyth, Geoffrey Martin, D.Sc., etc., Harold Tongue; "Concrete Block Building," by Major W. H. Smith, M.I.Struct.E.; "Structural Steelwork Reinforced with Concrete," by Ewart S. Andrews, B.Sc., etc.; "Aluminous Cement in Practice," by Mons. T. J. Gueritte, B.Sc., etc.; "Aluminous Cement ('Cement Fondu'), Pure or Mixed (Sand Cement)," by Prof. A. Paris, University of Lausanne; "Influence of the Quantity of Mixing Water on the Heating during the Hardening of Aluminous Cements," by J. Bertet; "Portland Cement," by Thaddeus Merriman, M.Am.Soc.C.E., etc.

Mr. Munro, in his paper on "Silicate of Soda and Concrete," dealt with the hardening of concrete floors in factories for the prevention of wear and dust. He also dwelt on the subject of treating concrete road surfaces with silicate of soda, and included in his paper a letter from Mr. Arthur Harrison, M.Inst.C.E., borough engineer and surveyor of Southwark, who reported on the success of the treatment. Mr. Munro touched on the application of silicate of soda on concrete surfaces which need protection from sea-water, and also the action of oil upon concrete.

The paper prepared by Major W. H. Smith, M.I.Struct.E., on "Concrete Block Building" enters more directly into the architect's field of interest than many of the other papers presented, which undeniably have much to interest him, but cannot be said to enter actively and directly into his professional activities in a similar way as a paper dealing with the subject of concrete block buildings.

We quote here from Major W. H. Smith's paper, in which he writes that:

"This subject is of particular importance in these times of shortage of bricks and skilled labour, since concrete block building provides a simple means of obtaining a really satisfactory substitute for the older methods, and offers a solution to the present difficulties.

Provided the right system of concrete block building is used, and the blocks are made by correct methods, it is an easy rival both in quality and price to brickwork, shuttered concrete, and framed structures with concrete filling.

There are many advantages in concrete block building as compared with shuttered systems, among the foremost being that the blocks can be matured before being set in the structure. A greater amount of flexibility is provided for the design of a structure; a greater volume of work can be accomplished for a given amount of skilled labour; and better provision is made for expansion and contraction due to temperature changes, while the question of shrinkage in concrete can be definitely set aside, since any shrinkage that will occur will do so before the units are built into the structure. Much can be said in favour of concrete block building and its advantages over other systems of construction, but too much care cannot be exercised in the selection of the best method."

Major W. H. Smith enumerates here what in his opinion are the essential requirements for satisfactory concrete block building:—(a) The use of blocks made from material of an impervious nature comprising the outer face of the structure.

(b) The use of blocks made from a porous material for the inner face. (c) Perfect bonding between the two types of blocks. (d) Cavities formed in the blocks, which register with one another, and are continuous in a vertical direction. (e) The correct distribution of the material comprising the structure in proportion to the stresses involved, and in relation to climatic and other conditions. (f) The adoption of a unit so shaped that the design of a building can be varied to suit the needs of the architect without the use of numerous special blocks or undue cutting.

It is imperative to employ different materials on the inner and outer faces of a building, in order to render the external surface weather-proof, and the internal surface free from condensation troubles. Perfect bonding between the two materials is essential if the maximum strength in a structure with a given amount of material employed is to be obtained.

Continuous vertical cavities are necessary to prevent sudden changes of temperature between the inner and outer faces of a structure, and to carry away any moisture which may penetrate the wall of the building.

The correct distribution of the material is naturally a very important item in view of the present-day high costs. It also affects the question of the settlement of a building on its foundations. If unnecessary weights are employed in the structure, correspondingly unnecessary loads are imposed upon the foundations. The materials should be so distributed as to be in correct proportion to carry the various stresses involved, such as compression, tension, sheer, buckling, etc. Provision must also be made for having the outer face of a sufficient thickness suitably stayed to prevent damage due to accidental blows or other causes.

The shape of the unit is an exceedingly important item, since it is essential to be able to provide for easy variation in the design of the building to meet the architect's needs, without the use of numerous special blocks or undue cutting, and to take advantage of mass production methods of manufacturing the units.

By departing from the rectangular unit or the several types of slabs and their variations, it is a simple matter to provide for all the requirements previously mentioned. At the same time, by the use of improved portable machinery which is now on the market, units can be produced actually on the site at which the building is to be erected, or at convenient centres close by, thereby reducing transport to the minimum, enabling with advantage the employment of unskilled labour for their production.

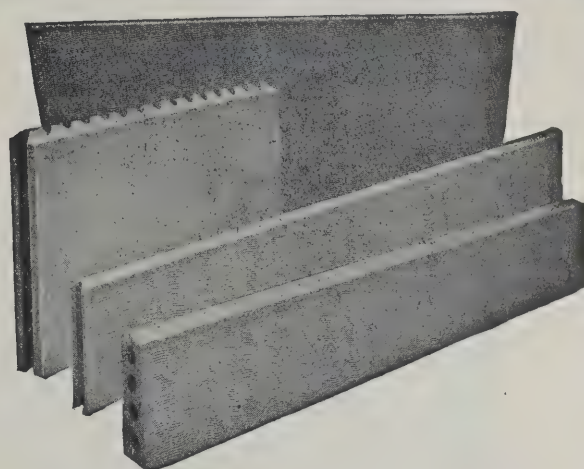
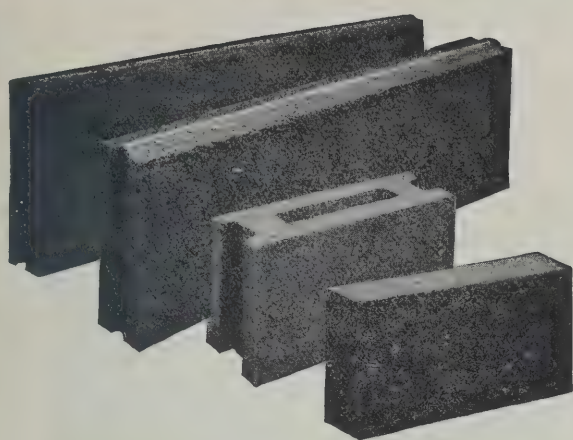
A very important consideration, however, is the manufacture of the blocks themselves. It is, of course, comparatively simple to produce concrete blocks of ample strength if cost is no serious item, but the majority of professional men to-day are primarily concerned with the question of cost when considering the relative merits of various systems.

Until recently partition slabs were usually produced made to the proportion of 6 parts clinker to 1 part cement, whereas to-day better results can be obtained with the proportions of 12 parts clinker and 1 part cement, by means of more efficient machinery and processes of manufacture, the saving in cement representing approximately 25 per cent. of the total cost of the slabs.

It is now generally acknowledged that the percentage of water employed in making concrete is as important as the quantity of cement, firstly from the point of view of correct hydration, but secondly from the more practical point of view of permitting the thorough mixing and distribution of the cement throughout the aggregate.

Until recent years practically the whole of the ordinary machinery for block and slab production worked on what is described as the "semi-dry" process, in which only a very small amount of moisture could be added to the aggregate, without difficulty being experienced in getting the blocks or slabs to leave the mould plates. It is an acknowledged fact that blocks made on the "semi-dry" process require considerably more cement to give the same strength than blocks produced by the "semi-wet" or "wet" process. Beyond this, the strength of the block in any process depends very largely upon the consistency of the packing of the aggregates in the mould box, and the ultimate pressure applied to bind the particles securely together. An extrusion process should be employed which allows of the blocks being made with the proper percentage of water, the block being stripped from the mould with a sliding movement, the mould face acting on the block in the same way as a trowel upon a rendered surface.

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In order to ensure perfect packing, pressure should be applied simultaneously at the top and bottom of the block by a leverage so arranged that the pressure applied is proportional to the resistance of the material in the mould box at its various stages of compression, thus enabling the operator of the machine to apply ample pressure at the final stage.

Another important point is the production of blocks absolutely regular in size and shape; otherwise considerable un-

necessary work is thrown on to the bricklayer, who is one of the most expensive of skilled operatives.

Machines are now on the market which are portable, and, in consequence, can be easily operated on the site, and which comply with the requirements so far as the use of wet mixture and top and bottom pressure simultaneously applied are concerned. They also provide for producing blocks of accurate dimensions.



LISTENING AT THE BUILDING TRADES EXHIBITION AT THE OLYMPIA TO H.M. THE KING'S SPEECH ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION AT WEMBLEY. THE SPEECH WAS RECEIVED AND TRANSMITTED TO THOSE GATHERED AROUND THE LEEDS FIRECLAY CO.'S STAND AT THE OLYMPIA. THE INSTRUMENT USED WAS LENT BY THE EDISON COMPANY AND WE ARE INDEBTED TO MESSRS. VULCANITE LTD., FOR THE PHOTOGRAPH.

The Western Electric Company's Public Address Systems.

The use of the Public Address System, for the opening ceremony of the British Empire Exhibition, has focussed the eyes of technical and non-technical people upon this recent development of scientific engineering. Such a development was made possible when the thermionic valve or vacuum tube was invented and developed in its function of amplifying small currents. It has since become possible to transmit speech and music by telephone to almost any required distance, and then to reproduce the original sounds with sufficient power to be heard simultaneously by audiences that may number 700,000 or more. At the British Empire Exhibition the King's speech was spoken into a transmitter suspended from the roof of the Royal Pavilion, and the weak speech currents were led through shielded leads to the amplifiers in the control room beneath the dais on which His Majesty was seated. The amplified currents were led out to the receiver projectors, which were carefully arranged in the pavilion roof to deliver the sound to the huge audience in the Stadium.

Requirements of the Public Address System.—The transmission of speech without distortion entails the picking up by the transmitter, amplification, and reproduction by the receivers, of all frequencies from 200–6,000 with uniform efficiency. These figures represent extremely exacting conditions, as it is very difficult to make telephone apparatus operate over so wide a range with as little distortion as is given by the vacuum tubes. It is, however, permissible to have variations in the intensity of reproduction at different frequencies provided that the total variation is not more than 10 miles of standard cable.

It should be noted that good commercial speech may be represented by speech intensity defined as 30 miles of standard cable below zero. Some idea of the quantities involved will be

gathered when it is stated that the zero level of transmission corresponds to electrical power of about 7 milliwatts, while one mile of standard cable attenuates or reduces the current by about 10 per cent., and therefore reduces the power by about 20 per cent.

Volume Control.—Some device is necessary to give the operator control of the volume delivered by each projector or group of projectors. The equipment designed for this work is mounted on a panel uniform with the others, and consists essentially of an auto-transformer connected across the output of the amplifier with 11 taps multiplied to the contacts of eight dial switches. Seven of the dials control projector circuits on each of which one or more projectors may be grouped, and the eighth dial is reserved for controlling the operator's monitoring projector in the control room. A key is associated with each dial for opening the circuit, and a master key is provided for cutting off all of the projectors simultaneously.

Volume Indicator.—The volume indicator consists of a vacuum tube detector bridged across the output terminals of the power amplifier. The rectified current is taken to a sensitive D.C. meter of the moving coil type, the degree of deflection of this meter measuring the output from the power amplifier.

The various conditions of use of the systems have made necessary the production of three types of horns. For projecting sound to great distances, a tapering wooden horn is used 10½ ft. long, having a rectangular cross-section, the sides being braced to prevent lateral vibrations. These large projectors are being fitted up in the roof of the Royal Pavilion for covering the huge area of the Wembley Stadium. For installations of less size a smaller type of fibre horn of the straight cone pattern and flaring open end is used.



BRITANNIC HOUSE, E.C.2 (Moorgate Front).
Architect
 Sir E. L. Lutyens, R.A.

Steelwork Manufactured and Erected by
 Redpath, Brown & Co. Ltd.

REDPATH, BROWN & CO. Ltd.

CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERS,

3 LAURENCE POUNTNEY HILL, E.C.4

WORKS AND STOCKYARDS

LONDON
 Riverside Works,
 East Greenwich, S.E.

MANCHESTER
 Trafford Park.

EDINBURGH
 St. Andrew
 Steel Works.

GLASGOW
 Westburn, Newton.
 Office: 19 Waterloo St.

BIRMINGHAM
 Office:
 47 Temple Row.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
 Office:
 Milburn House.

REGISTERED OFFICES: 2 St. Andrew Square, EDINBURGH.



Buildings in Progress.

A building that attracts considerable interest in the square mile of old London city is Adelaide House, London Bridge, the work of Sir John Burnet (A.R.A.) and Partners—Sir John, who is so well known as the architect of the British Museum Extension. Indeed, the influence of some of the archaic work to be found in that Museum seems to be impressed not alone upon the new work at that building, but also to have been carried forward into Adelaide House. And yet one cannot deny the quality of originality to this imposing block of offices. At the same time, it is a pity that Wren's valuable work of art, the church of St. Magnus the Martyr, should be lost to view behind the new buildings.

As regards construction, the following is a list of the firms engaged upon the ten-storey block: Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons are the general contractors; Scaffolding Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., for scaffolding; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., steel work; United Stone Firms, Ltd., for Portland stone; Brookes, Ltd., for the granite; Fenning & Co., Ltd., for marble columns; the Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., for metal windows; the Trussed Concrete Steel Co., Ltd., for floors; Lion Foundry Co., Ltd., for escape stairs; Arthur Thornborough, Ltd., for steel shutters; James A. King & Co., for pavement lights; the Birmingham Guild, Ltd., for ventilation panes; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, Ltd., for artesian wells; Galbraith & Winton, for marble work; Diespeker & Co., Ltd., for mosaic; Carter & Co. (London), Ltd., for terrazzo; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., for rubber paving blocks; Stevens, Adams & Co., for oak block flooring; the London Plenum Heating Co., for vacuum cleaning plant; the Grand Metallic Paving and Plastering Co., for plastering; Shanks & Co., Ltd., for sanitary appliances; Rippers, Ltd., for joinery work; Waygood-Otis, for lifts; Electrical Installations, Ltd., for electric lighting; Newton Witter Engineering Co., Ltd., for fire protection and sprinklers; and Young, Austen & Young, for heating and fuel oil.

For some months those passing the Royal Exchange have had their attention invited by the display of a free art exhibition upon the hoarding surrounding the site and carcass of the new offices of the British Dominions Insurance Co. The building itself should provide the greater attraction to a discerning public. The site is not an easy one for an architect to deal with, and it is as yet rather early days to judge of what will be the final effect of the proposed seven-storey structure, which is being gradually evolved out of nothingness. Though a Renaissance design, yet there is a Gothic feeling about the balconies at any rate. The general contractors are Bovis, Ltd. Other firms include: Siegwart, for fireproof floors; Moreland, Haynes & Co., Ltd., for steel construction; the Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., for metal windows; C. Isler & Co., Ltd., for artesian wells; Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., for asphalte work; Frank Polden & Co., Ltd., for electrical engineering; J. H. Nicholson & Co., Ltd., for heating; Cashmore, Bowman & Co., Ltd., for lifts enclosures; and the Express Lift Co., Ltd., for lifts.

In Aldersgate Street, the City of London Electric Lighting Co. is erecting a seven-storey stone-fronted block of offices, wherein the company itself is providing the labour for erection of the building. A certain character is given to the façade by

the continuous three-storey metal window frames, which pleasantly vary the stonework, these windows being supplied by Messrs. Henry Hope & Sons. Other firms engaged include Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., for steel work; S.M. Constructional Co., for hollow fire-resisting floors; Waygood-Otis, for lifts; and G. N. Haden & Sons, for hot water, heating and ventilating.

One of the few public or semi-public buildings successfully bombed during the war was Ironmongers' Hall, in Fenchurch Street. Instead of raising, phoenix-like, a new building out of the ashes of the old one, the Ironmongers' Company decided to build upon a fresh site off Aldersgate Street, and here we find a pleasant little building being erected from the design of Mr. Sidney Tatchell, F.R.I.B.A. The architect may be congratulated upon his production, which it is hoped will be out of the hands of the contractors (Messrs. Holland & Hannen and Cubitt's, Ltd.) by next September. One gets weary of the everlasting display of plain and elaborated Portland stone façades, especially when the fact is recognised that, as a rule, they are not structurally stone façade at all, but either steel-framed or else reinforced concrete structures. But Mr. Tatchell is providing a rustic dull red brick front, the bricks being obtained from the Danes Hill Co.; the result, in combination with wide mortar (or, say, cement) jointing, is eminently restful in effect. We notice that the Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., are supplying the steel reinforcement for the concrete and that the Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., are supplying the metal windows.

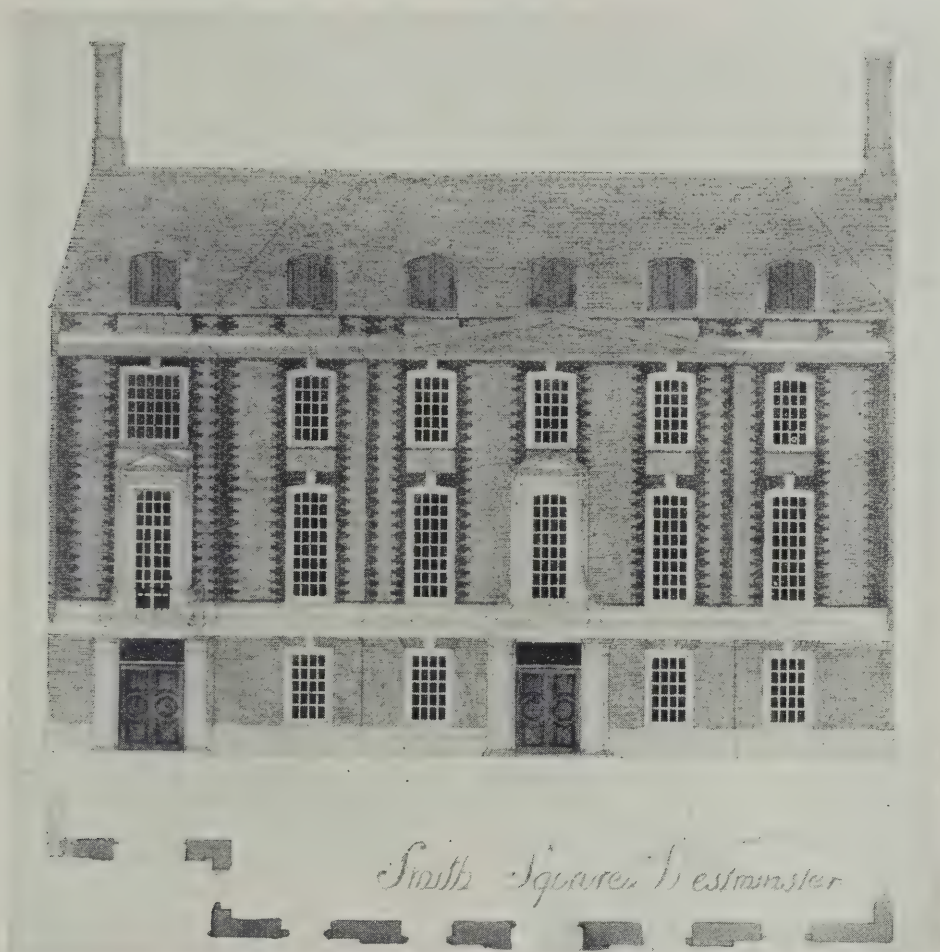
Messrs. Allen Fairhead & Sons are the contractors for Barclays Bank new branch premises in Fleet Street upon the site of the old offices of the "Daily Chronicle." This bank has the benefit of occupying a corner site, and the architect has certainly made good use of his opportunities.

A pleasing variation upon the usual Renaissance design is that displayed upon the façade of the new offices recently erected in Fleet Street by the Gresham Assurance Co. The Greek Doric half-columns of the principal storey, and the roof covered with red Italian tiles, combine well with the general air of restraint apparent in the treatment.

Amongst many other important buildings now rising in our thoroughfares, the Swiss Bank Corporation block at the corner of Gresham and Coleman Streets is worthy of attention. Seven-storey structures seem to be much favoured in London, and we certainly trust it will be long before the skyscrapers of New York will be challenged here. In this building, again, stone is being employed as a facing, and the Renaissance elevation is of a pleasant and unelaborated character that is commendable. We are glad to note that opportunity is being taken to widen Gresham Street at this point in a line with Lothbury adjoining. The general contractors are Messrs. Ashby & Horner, Ltd., and other firms noted as engaged upon the work are: Brookes, Ltd., for granite; Le Grand, Sutcliffe & Gell, Ltd., for artesian wells; and the Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd., as bankers' engineers. Messrs. Ford & Walton are the contractors for a stone-faced block now in course of erection opposite St. James's Park Station. It consists of basement, ground floor and four floors over. The façade is rusticated up to the cornice of first floor. Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., are supplying the steel work; Ragusa Asphalte Paving Co., Ltd., the asphalte work; Young, Austen & Young (Yay), the heating and hot water; and the Express Lift Co., Ltd., the lifts.

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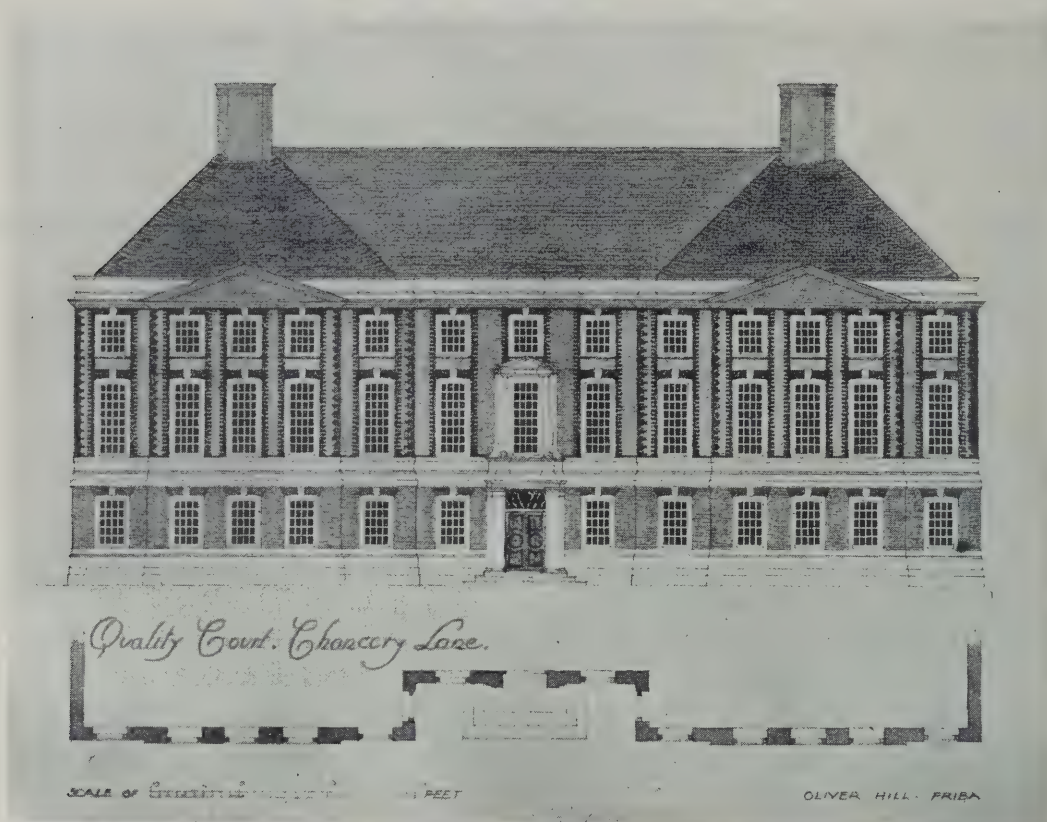


R.A. 1924. TOWN HOUSES. SMITH SQUARE, WESTMINSTER. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

Architecture at the R.A.—II.

A second visit to the Architectural Room at the Academy confirms our first judgment that the one outstanding feature of the exhibition is Sir Reginald Blomfield's Memorial to the Missing, Menin Gate, Ypres. The dedicatory inscription, "To the Armies of the British Empire who stood here from 1914 to 1918, and to those of their dead who have no known graves," is worthily expressed in architectural terms. And those terms are rightly not conveyed in the strained verbiage of those who, like the Athenians, seek some new thing, but in the language of that Renaissance which has become a European vernacular binding together the States who strove against the German onslaught, and which will probably see the death of "new movements," just as we hope the fabric of civilisation will prevail over political Bolshevism. The monument in its dignity and simplicity conveys a message of inspiration and sanity especially welcome at the present time. The second outstanding feature of the exhibition is unquestionably Mr. Herbert Baker's Delville Wood memorial, in which perfection of mass and poise is obtained by subtle refinement of line and delicate treatment of offsets.

Continuing our notices in the order of the catalogue, we notice Mr. Oliver Hill's scale drawings of façades to houses in Smith Square, Westminster, No. 1,177, which are well proportioned and in complete harmony with the character of the older work. Mr. Hill is rapidly earning a reputation for work of unusual character and interest, and in No. 1,195, Proposed Business Premises—we believe at Hammersmith—has produced a very pleasingly proportioned front, the rhythm and charm of which are exceptional. No. 1,181 illustrates the rebuilding of Wrotesley Hall, a Georgian house with one-storeyed side wings, by Messrs. Fred. T. Beck & James A. Swan. No. 1,182 is a quiet little Gothic vicarage for St. Mark's Church, Regent's Park, by Mr. G. Berkeley Wills. The North Wales Heroes' Memorial for Bangor College takes the form of buildings for the Department of Agriculture and Natural Science, and is designed by Mr. Alan Munby (No. 1,186). We find it difficult to understand why these are in brick, as they are in a pre-eminently stone district where Mr. Hare achieved one of his greatest successes in design. Mr. Munby's work, though careful and painstaking, has little interest



R.A. 1924. QUALITY COURT, CHANCERY LANE. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

or charm. No. 1,184 is a very pleasing Tudor composition, Hilles, Gloucestershire, by Mr. Detmar Blow. In No. 1,187 Mr. Alfred Yeates gives a good panelled room for a small library, in which the pilasters are framed in panelling which suggests an earlier and freer



"CASTOR AND POLLUX," symbolising English and Dutch races together fighting the Empire battles. Model of group surmounting the South African War Memorial, Delville Wood. HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect; ALFRED TURNER, A.R.A., Sculptor.

period, but the effect is nevertheless pleasing. No. 1,189 is an admirable addition to a house at Godalming, by Mr. Harold Falkner. The Bengal Council Chamber Competition finds echoes in Mr. Joseph Sunlight's design, No. 1,191, and that of Mr. John Greaves, No. 1,197. Neither can be said to be altogether successful. Vigo House, Regent Street, by Sir John Burnet & Partners, No. 1,192, is good and simple, and an example of the architect's careful avoidance of customary detail. Messrs. W. A. Pite & Fairweather, in No. 1,193, illustrate the doorway of a fishermen's institute in a pleasing little colour-drawing. Sir John Burnet & Partners, in their Cape Helles Memorial, No. 1,196, at Gallipoli, have designed a fine and dignified obelisk marked by much refinement. Mr. Edward Maufe is, as usual, good, and in his bank at Amesbury, No. 1,199, in the Chaplain's House, Church and Institute at Shepherd's Bush, No. 1,256, in which the outstanding and dominant mass of the church bulks up well, and his Entrance to the Food Section at Wembley, No. 1,299. Mr. Henry Tanner's Chesham House, No. 1,200, is a dignified if conventional design for business premises. Messrs. Mackenzie's War Memorial, Aberdeen, No. 1,201, is well composed and dignified, though the screen of columns might with advantage be more sharply curved. No. 1,202 is an excellent bank design by Mr. Thomas Wilson. No. 1,203, 9 Halkin Street, by Messrs. Blow & Billery, is of a rather anæmic type of late Georgian design shown in an insufficient drawing. No. 1,208 shows a design for the "Chicago Tribune" offices, by Messrs. Gregory & Saunders. The new offices for the Hudson's Bay Company, by Messrs. Mewès & Davis and Sir Charles Allom, is a drawing of a courtyard entrance admirably detailed and shown in a strong crayon drawing. Mr. Sidney Greenslade, in No. 1,212, gives a pencil drawing of library buildings in the grounds of Rougemont Castle, Exeter, which is very reminiscent of his work at Aberystwyth. No. 1,213 is a well-proportioned office block



R.A. 1924. MOSQUE, PROPOSED STATE HOSPITAL, CAIRO. DIXON SPAIN AND NICHOLAS, Architects.

by Messrs. Oswald P. Milne & Paul Phipps. Messrs. Brierley & Rutherford, in No. 125, show new bank premises at Darlington, which, like all their work, is good; the columns would be more happy if they were given greater height by being carried down on to a shallower base. This might possibly have been effected by panelling a space under the windows. No. 1,216, Winter Gardens, Southend, by Mr. D. N. Martin Kaye, is shown in a good drawing. The proposed masonic hall at Stroud is distinctly "queer," but is shown by a very fine pencil drawing. No. 1,218. The architects are Messrs. Kieffer Fleming & Kersey. A competitive design for Lombard Hall, Little Britain, No. 1,219, by Mr. James J. S. Naylor, is a good piece of design of a Georgian type. No. 1,221 shows Farrington's Girls' School, Chislehurst, by Messrs. Crickmer & Foxley, a large well-planned school in three blocks. The new P. & O. offices, St. Mary Axe, by Messrs. Colclutt & Hamp,

No. 1,223, is a well-designed building, but the amount of sculpture indicated seems to us excessive for a utilitarian building. No. 1,224, by Messrs. Hayward & Magner, shows a good design for the narrow frontage of the Sun Office. Mr. William A. Newton gives in No. 1,225 a pavilion to the Memorial Hall at Marlborough, and in No. 1,264 the hall and class-rooms at Uppingham. Both are good, but a little wanting in the interest and life which his father expressed in all his work. The cinema front, No. 1,226, by Messrs. Granger & Leathart, is good. Messrs. Nicholas & Dixon Spain, in Nos. 1,227 and 1,237, give portions of the new Cairo Hospital, which promises to be a fine architectural design. The design placed second for Greenwich Baths, No. 1,228, by Messrs. Field & Pearson, is excellent in balance and architectural quality. In No. 1,229 Mr. Thrale Jell has produced a very simple and well-composed design of proposed business premises in Jermyn



R.A. 1924. ANTROBUS HOUSE, AMESBURY. GEOFFREY FILDES, Architect.



R.A. 1924. STOCKTON AND THORNABY HOSPITAL. LANCHESTER, LUCAS AND LODGE, Architects.

Street. The new headquarters of the Society of Friends in Euston Road, by Mr. Hubert Lidbetter, are dignified, but a little heavy. No. 1233. Mr. Septimus Warwick sends a drawing of the entrance to the Canadian Government Building, No. 1,234, which is of interest and merit. Messrs. Lancaster, Lucas & Lodge send a bird's-eye view of their design for Cairo Hospital, No. 1,238, and the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, No. 1,294, both well designed. Mr. H. P. Burke Downing sends a drawing of St. Margaret's Church, Putney, a good and exceedingly simple and economical design, in which the only detail is the traceried east window. Like all of Mr. Downing's work, this is excellent. Mr. W. D. Carøe is represented by a view of St. Helen's Church, St. Helens, showing the bayed east end and tower. The point of view is a little unfortunate, and hardly does the design full justice. Mr. Arthur Keen, in No. 1,242, gives the new meeting room at the R.I.B.A., which forms a good interior. Mr. Evelyn Simmons's church at Gretna, No. 1,245, is delightful in its form and design. Mr. Walter Tapper is represented by a decorative scheme for the Lower Chapel, Eton, No. 1,243, which is a little difficult to follow, and the fine interior of a church at Gorton, No. 1,252. The new premises, 51 Gresham Street, by Messrs. Richardson & Gill, show a very restrained and simple treatment of a broad curved sweep of street frontage. The Lascar Memorial at Calcutta, No. 1,250, by Mr. W. I. Keir, is very cleverly designed in an Eastern manner, while it is at the same time fresh and original in type. Mr. Troup's Record Office for the Bank of England shows a block on a narrow front with receding upper storeys treated in a very simple and impressive manner. We should like to see a drawing giving more detail of Messrs. Stokes & Drysdale's "La Brabançonne," which gives promise of much interest. Three Cheshire war memorial crosses, No. 1,269, are exceedingly good examples of effective design. The Lancaster War Memorial, No. 1271, by Messrs. T. H. Mawson & Sons, suggests L'Art Nouveau.

Messrs. Forsyth & Maule are at their best in their beautiful design for the Prideaux Memorial Picture Gallery and Drawing School at Eton, which is charming in its picturesque quality and dignity. They also send a drawing of New Science Buildings, Kingswood School, Bath, No. 1,281.

Messrs. Adams & Holden, in conjunction with Lionel Pearson, show, in No. 1,287, what they are doing in a

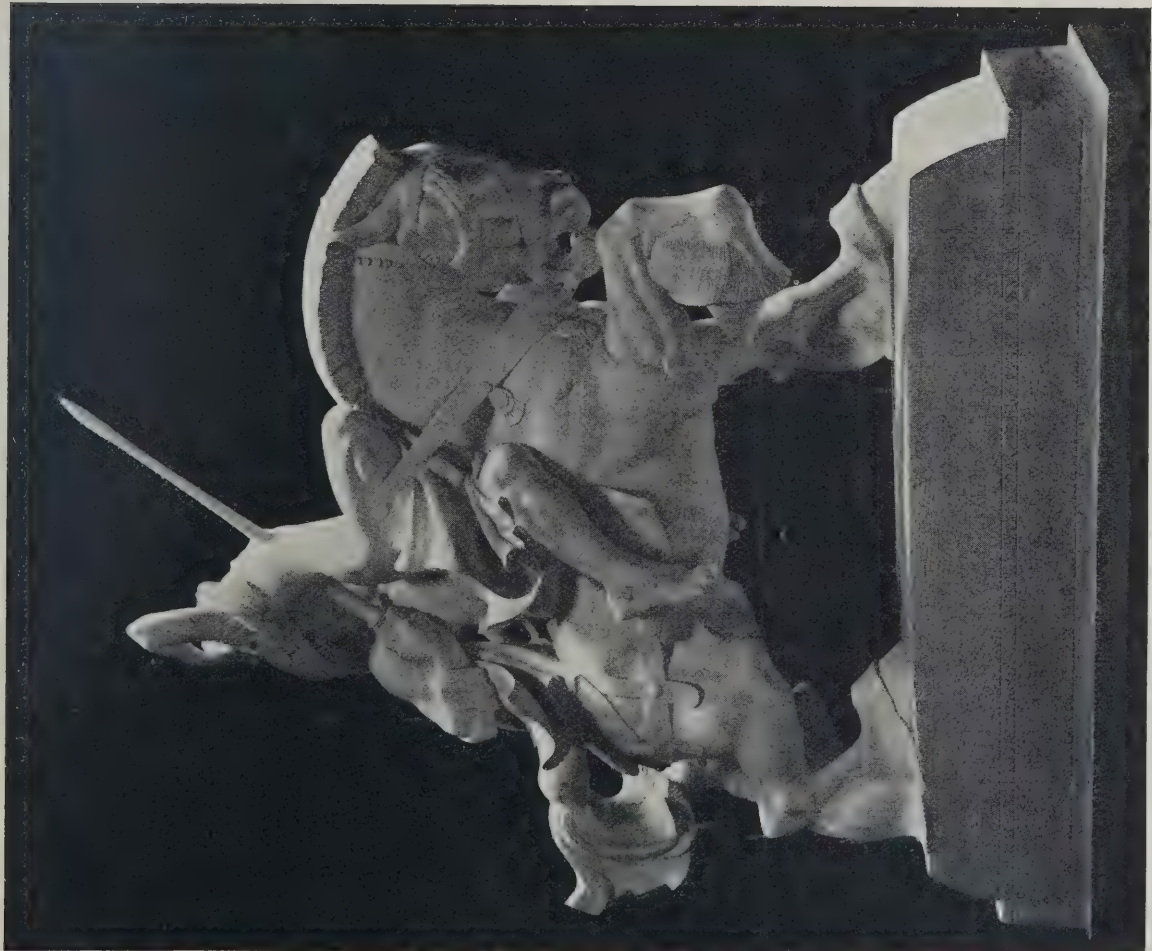
difficult effort to mitigate the ugliness of Westminster Hospital, which we wish could have been entirely rebuilt. Messrs. Adams & Holden, in their Deal and Walmer Hospital, No. 1,292, have produced a most pleasing architectural group. Mr. Percy Keys' new General Hospital, Singapore, No. 1,297, is admirable in its simple and effective grouping. The additions to Eastbourne College and War Memorial Tower, by Mr. Tatchell, in conjunction with Mr. Wilson, No. 1,296, form an important building, very conventionally treated. We regret that he has not sent a drawing of his design for the new hall for the Ironmongers' Company.

Surely medical intolerance need not have secured the elimination of sash bars in the winning design for Weybridge Hospital, No. 1,289, since expert designers like Messrs. Adams & Holden see no necessity for these extreme measures! The S.E. Gateway of Cardiff Castle, No. 1,298, by Mr. John P. Grant, is in keeping with the historic group of which it forms a part. In No. 1,302 Messrs. Milne & Phipps have produced a delightful exhibition building for the "Times" at Wembley. The proportions of the cupola and colonnade are extremely good. Lloyd's Bank at Edgware, No. 1,309, by Mr. Thomas Wilson, is just what a country bank should be. The bank designs this year all indicate that the great banking companies attach a value to good architectural design.

Among other works may be mentioned No. 1,342, New Colliery Offices, Thorncliffe, Sheffield, by Mr. A. Gilbert Scott, and the entrance gateway to the West China University, Chengtu, by Messrs. Frank Rowntree & Sons.

We always regret the wall space given up to representations of stained glass, which hardly lends itself to pictorial representation; in addition, many of the works shown are poor, even bearing in mind the limitations and difficulties of the subject. The best and most effective drawing in the exhibition is No. 1,254, a sketch design for the windows of the Baltic Shipping Exchange, in which the contrasts of light and shade are well emphasised. The best decorative design and drawing in the Academy is the design for image and shrine for St. Mary's Church, Graham Street, S.W., by Mr. Martin Travers, which is a work of the first order of merit.

The Town Council of Leeds will grant subsidies in respect to the following houses: six in Grove Hall Drive, Beeston; six houses in Edmonton Place, Chapel Allerton Hall Estate; 12 houses in Old Lane, Beeston.



R.A. 1924. THE GREEK CAPTIVE. THE JEALOUSY AND REVENGE OF SEMIRAMIS. FRANK M. TAUBMAN, Sculptor.

Our Illustrations.

VIGO HOUSE, VIGO STREET, REGENT STREET, W. SIR JOHN BURNET, A.R.A., AND PARTNERS.
CENTRE BAY, MESSRS. BARKER'S NEW PREMISES. SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD, R.A.
SKETCH PROJECT FOR LONDON. SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A.

Notes and Comments.

Sir Aston Webb.

All his colleagues in the profession and his friends have heard with much regret of the accident which has resulted in injury to Sir Aston Webb, but we hope that he will soon be on the way to complete recovery, and once more able to use his energies to the full. No one connected with the profession has taken more whole-hearted interest in its affairs, and we may say no one has exercised such wide influence and control in all matters of administration or been more alive to the importance of securing the respect and support of the public. It is surprising that one whose time is so busily and fully occupied should, like Sir Aston, have found it possible to give the time and thought to the affairs of the London Society which have rendered its success a certainty.

Clopton Bridge.

A communication to the "Times" deals with the Clopton Bridge controversy, and is illustrated by a small plan showing an alternative project, by which it is proposed to build a new high level bridge immediately above the old one to cope with traffic and to avoid the necessity of widening the older structure. But, as is pointed out, this new bridge would be far more destructive of the amenities of the district than the widening of the old bridge, while its cost is said to be likely to amount to £50,000. We have far more sympathy with proposals which aim at adapting old structures to meet modern requirements than those which practically side-track them and believe that the alternative method is in harmony with the practice of former ages. We do not want to preserve buildings as "museum pieces," but by bringing them into continued use to add another page to architectural development and history.

The R.I.B.A. Dinner.

The R.I.B.A. annual dinner was held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Tuesday night, the invited guests including the Bishop of London, the Earl of Midleton, Lord Thomson (Secretary of State for Air), Lord Olivier (Secretary of State for India), Lord Sumner, Sir Amherst Selby-Bigge (Permanent Secretary, Board of Education), Sir Humphry Rolleston, Lord Charnwood, Mr. F. W. Jowett, M.P. (First Commissioner of Works), Mr. J. Wells (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford), Mr. H. J. Waring (Vice-Chancellor of the University of London), Sir Lawrence Weaver, Mr. P. A. Gilbert Wood, J.P., Lieut.-Col. John W. Abraham, O.B.E., Col. E. Prisswall, O.B.E., T.D., the Presidents of the Allied Societies, Mr. H. Matthews (President of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers), Mr. H. T. Holloway (President of the London Master Builders' Association), and many others. Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, presided.

Sir Amherst Selby-Bigge, Permanent Secretary, Board of Education, proposing the toast of the evening, said they in the Board of Education welcomed the growing strength of that organisation.

The Chairman, in response, said of all the arts architecture was the most visible, intruding itself, in the most insinuating way, upon the consciousness of the world. The desirability that the public should have some knowledge of the principles underlying its external expression required no urging. No poet had sung its merits, no prose writer, not even Ruskin, had taken it as his theme. The reason of that was not very far to seek. No poets or prose writers had really ever understood architecture.

Mr. E. Bertram Kirby, President of the Liverpool Architectural Society, said the close alliance between the Royal Institute and the Society of Architects might in the past have been regarded as a dangerous experience, but now, he hoped, had become a permanent union. In his own Society over two-thirds of the members were members of the Royal Institute.

Mr. J. Wells, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, proposing "The Arts," alluded to the threatened demolition of a

number of old City churches, and said it was very hard to draw a line between what was worth preserving and what was not. But all of them present, he felt certain, would wish that the hand of the spoiler might be stayed.

The toast of "The Guests" was proposed by Mr. Guy Dawber, and in replying the Bishop of London said no one admired beautiful architecture more than he did, and he would rather resign his see than have anything happen to a church like St. Bartholomew the Great. Their art was one of the most beautiful in the world.

Competition News.

In our advertisement pages under Competition Notices will be found the full particulars and conditions of an international architectural competition for the Bank of Lithuania to be erected at Kaunas (Kovno).

The value of the three prizes offered is 22,000 litas, and a litas is equal to 0.10 of the U.S. dollar. Thus 10,000 litas, the value of the first prize, equals 1,000 dollars. The second and third prizes are 7,000 and 5,000 litas respectively.

The bank may, if it wishes, acquire any project not awarded a prize at the price of the first prize. The three designs to which awards are made become the property of the bank.

The following architects have been successful in a limited architectural competition for branch libraries at Burley and Bramley. For the Burley Library 16 designs were submitted by architects practising in the West Riding, to which the competition was limited. The design placed first was that submitted by Mr. G. B. Howcroft, architect, Upper Mill, near Oldham, the value of which the award was £35. Messrs. Foggitt & Addison, architects, were placed second, and have received £20; and Mr. A. E. Dixon, architect, of Leeds, was awarded the third place and £15. In respect to the Bramley Library, the design submitted by Messrs. Foggitt & Addison, architects, was placed first and was awarded £35; the second prize of £20 being awarded to Messrs. Parkin & Sheffield, architects, of Leeds; and the third place was accorded to Messrs. Kitson, Parish & Legard, of Leeds, who received £15.

Proposals of R.I.B.A. Council.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Association of Licentiate R.I.B.A., it was unanimously resolved that the support of the Association be given to the Councils of the Royal Institute and the Society in their effort to consolidate the profession by amalgamation; and that all members of the Association be urged to forward the scheme by all means in their power. The Chairman, having read a number of letters received from members in many parts of the country, said it did not seem to him necessary to say very much at the present moment, since it was perfectly clear that, as far as Licentiates were concerned, they recognised the importance of the fact that the two Councils of the Institute and the Society had arrived at the point at which to put proposals before the whole profession with unanimity; and they felt that even if they might criticise details, no good purpose would or could be served by doing so, when and while the question at stake was one of principle and not of detail. If, as he sincerely hoped, the scheme was accepted on the broad lines set out, no doubt all parties would have every opportunity for making suggestions on the detailed working of the scheme, and he had no hesitation in returning his card to the secretary with a most emphatic "Yes" as the answer to the question put by the Council to the Licentiates. "To secure the representation of the profession by one great Institute is an ideal we have always hoped to see realised, and we desire most earnestly to appeal to members to support the Council's scheme in every way in their power."

A new Wesleyan hall is to be erected at Attercliffe.

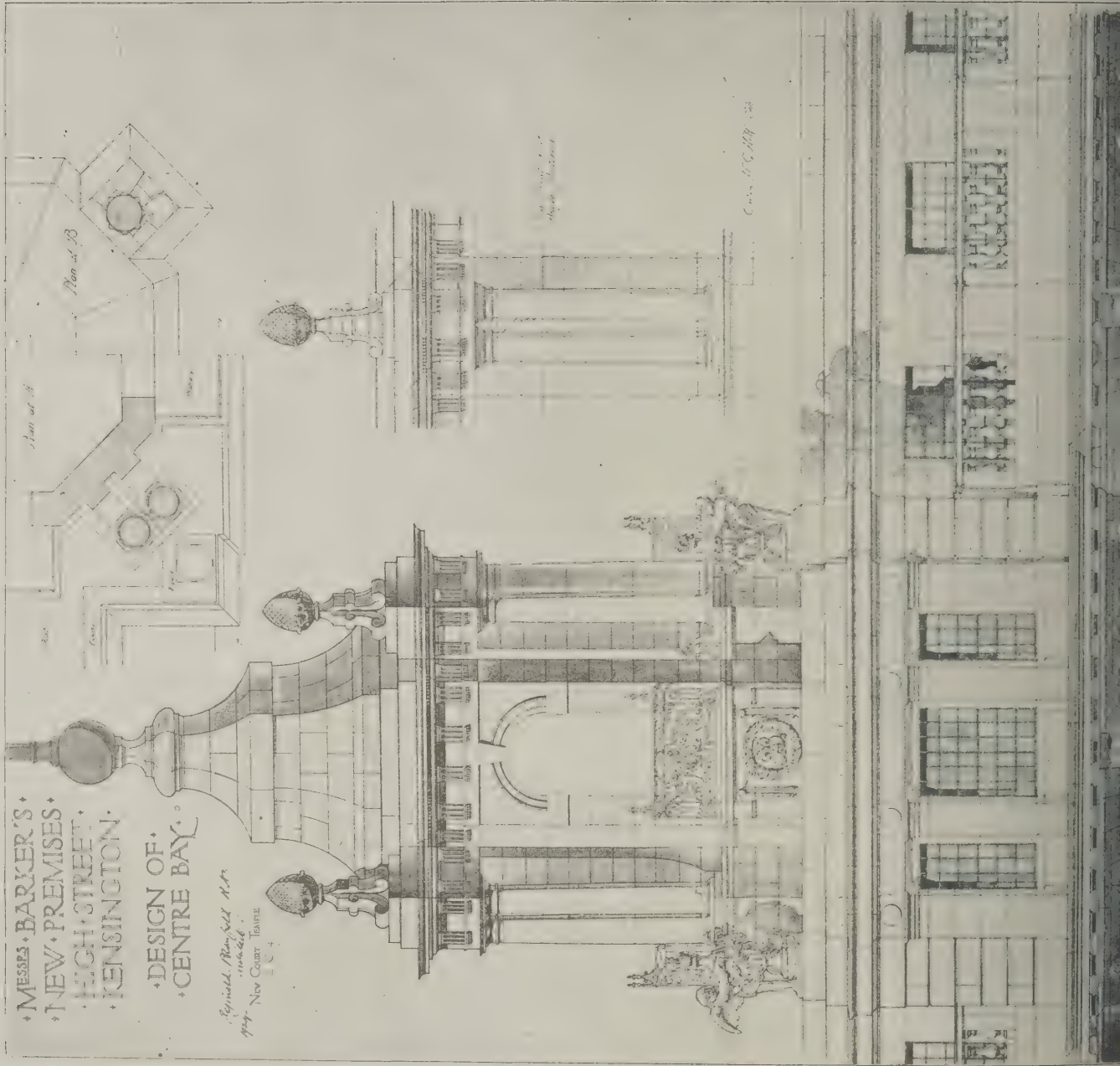
A scheme has been prepared for the erection of a new public hall at Blakeney, Newnham, Gloucestershire.

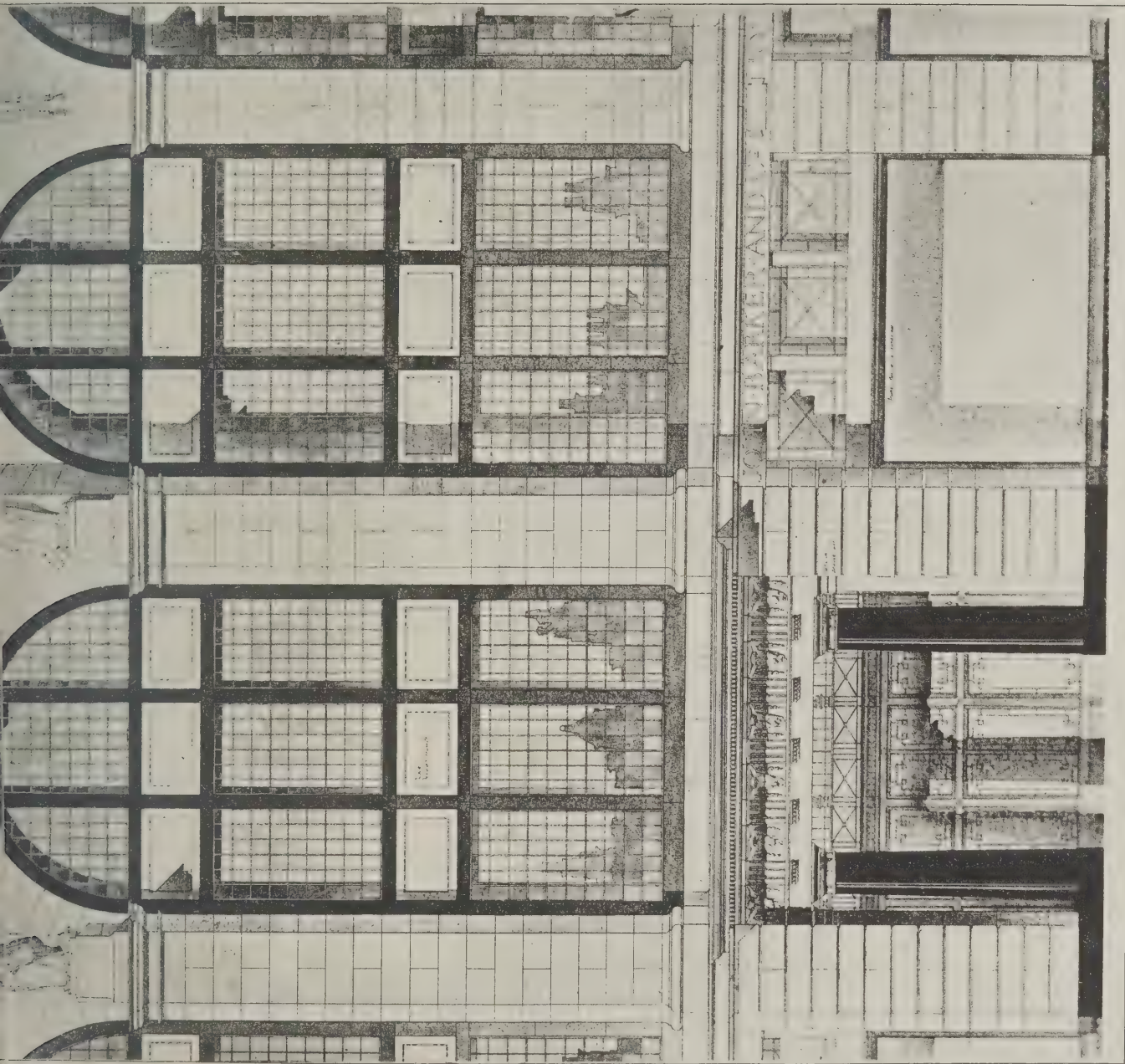
The plans for a new church hall have been approved by the Chelmsford Town Council.

Funds are being collected for the enlargement of the Conservative Hall at East Molesey.

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THE ARCHITECT, MAY 9th, 1924.





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CENTRE BAY. MESSRS. BARKER'S NEW PREMISES, HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON.

SIR REGINALD BLOWFIELD, R.A., ARCHITECT.

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VIGO HOUSE, VIGO STREET,

SIR JOHN J. BURNET, A.

MAY 9th, 1924.



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Painting at the R.A.

The problem of Royal portraiture has vexed the souls of painters right down the ages from Velasquez to Charles Sims. And if Mr. Sims emerges from his adventure, perhaps a little breathless, and if not actually triumphant, at least he provides the sensation of the year.

With quite a rare sense of pomp and circumstance (the phrase is irresistible), Mr. Sims shows His Majesty enthroned upon a crimson dais, under a crimson curtain looped with the familiar tassels inseparable from such circumstance. A blaze of light fills the centre of the picture. Against this the Royal head is relieved with all the skill, and more than a hint of the detachment that is in Mr. Sims's own particular possession. This deliberate focussing of interest on certain points to the exclusion of others, while adding to the decorative content, leaves His Majesty's limbs somewhat inadequately realised, and tends to rob the figure of the dignity which at first glance it appears to enjoy.

Apart from this, the portrait has an expressive quality which cannot be gainsaid; and in its place of honour, proves of the utmost value to the exhibition as a whole.

But for the distinguished aspect of this achievement—one says not *chef d'œuvre*—there is little to give character, or even value, to the remainder of the show.

The Committee of Arrangement, acting apparently on a decentralising principle, has dispersed throughout the Galleries what, after all, is a mere handful of good things.

So "The King" looks down a Great Room almost devoid of interest; but, stay! Surely this is too sweeping! What of Sargent, Orpen, Clausen, Lee, Philpot, and the rest of the famous "forty," to say nothing of the "infamous" outsider? (D. Y. Cameron, Brangwyn and McEvoy being absent.)

What of these?

Of these hardly a single one honours himself or us. Hardly a vital spark! Hardly a thrill remembered! A glance at our notes gives us Orpen, whose "Archbishop of York" worthily fills a centre. His Grace lacks little that Sir William's witty brush-marks can give us in characterisation: the thin lips sternly compressed, relentless, contradicting almost the kindly humour of the warm dark eyes, the fine forehead sensitively modelled, the lawn sleeves admirable in texture—truly a good Orpen! Good even in colour, richer than most. Of a truth, the Bishop hath impressed Sir William! Or was it vice versa? Does the "kindly humour" of these eyes hint at a studio story, the stern-lipped mouth at official disapproval? Less notable are the other Orpens—the "John McCormack," picturesque, but tired, flat; the vivacious "Duke of Westminster," too lively indeed to be flat except in colour. But to discuss colour before Sir William Orpen were to grant him qualities outwith his province. Also in the Great Room and in interesting contrast to the "York" portrait, Mr. Greiffenhagen's "Dr. Macan" has many similar qualities, though differing notably in its more robust handling. As also the very attractive "Mrs. Makower," by Mr. Glyn Philpot. And quite in a class by itself that artist's diploma work, "Portrait of a Young Man," exquisite in its sober tonality and a very real air of romance. A thing to ponder over.

In another room, "Sir Philip Sassoon," the sole exhibit of Mr. Sargent, reveals the master in a mood less dexterous than analytical. Of the John portraits, with the living quality which is supremely his, although on occasion lacking in other no less telling attributes, the "Princess Antoine Bibesco" is distinctive, although it must be confessed it lacks surprisingly any subtlety of personal observation. The lace mantilla is unvaried in handling, and its arrangement not new from John. None the less, this figure compels with its human interest.

The many other portraits show for the most part aims limited to securing likeness, with little or none of that schematic arrangement which from the exhibition standpoint is an essential adjunct. In the domain of landscape, despite the usual numbers, it is again only the very few which really hold our attention with more than a passing

interest. The topographical landscape which appealed so directly to the public of a generation ago, now finds less favour with the crowd which to-day frequents the R.A. Interest centres more than ever in the personal vision.

As if to point the way, Mr. Clausen comes forward this year with a veritable little masterpiece, which, in its exquisite rendering of a "September Sunrise," reveals the mind of the artist more nearly in touch with the infinite than ever. Surely an almost perfect expression of English Impressionism.

Equally personal, though less purely impressionistic, are the examples of Arnesby Brown, the most important, "The Smug and Silver Trent," shows him in realistic mood. In "The Hollow" we find him in more familiar vein, dealing with weather phenomena—clouds presaging rain, the sudden chill of coming storm, the gleam of sun behind the cloud—inheritance of Constable.

As with Mr. Arnesby Brown—so with most of the others. We find them repeating old themes with little modification. Sir Hughes-Stanton returns from Japan with landscape motives culled from afar, yet, nevertheless, strangely reminiscent of the homeland. Mr. Sydney Lee, contributing his full quota, and none of them small, gives us little chance to forget him. His "Corfe Castle" seen above and between a group of foreground cottages, reveals him as still thinking in terms of black and white, in fact, still using a black under-ground on which he superimposes an unpleasantly dry pigment devoid of colour interest.

Nor do the figure painters depart much from their accustomed grooves. Mr. Harry Morley, for instance, repeats his subject of last year—costumed figures grouped against brick and mortar; also another "Penelope," this time with suitors. Happier than either of these is the mythological subject in a setting of quite idyllic beauty.

Under a somewhat similar grouping come Mr. Charles Shannon and Mr. Ricketts, both with imaginative works; Mr. Philip Connard, strongly represented, is as bright and merry as ever, and must take rank as one of the cleverest painters we have.

Among Scotsmen represented are Mr. James Paterson, Mr. P. W. Adam, and Mr. Whitelaw Hamilton, whose little landscape by some odd chance hangs beside the Modernists. Of these last, by far the most interesting, indeed, in certain respects the most interesting picture of the exhibition, is Mrs. Dod Procter's "Two of Them"—a small boy in a big chair with a ginger-coloured cat beside him. Decidedly fresh in conception, in a strangely minor key, it at once arrests by its novelty of subject and daring colour. The green white of the chair-cover strangely contrasting with both the sharp crimson of cushions and yellow of the cat, startles with its acidity.

H. A. C.

Book Reviews.

"Concrete Cottages, Bungalows, and Garages," by Albert Lakeman, M.S.A., M.C.I., price 5s. cloth, and 3s. 6d. paper covers. Published by Concrete Publications, Ltd.

Contains a wonderful fund of information, augmented by many diagrams showing different modes of construction, elevations and plans, and quite a number of effective perspective drawings by T. Raffles Davison. We published a series of articles on "Modern Methods of Building Construction" in our journal in 1922-23 by Mr. Lakeman, which were greatly appreciated because of the thorough manner in which the author dealt with his subject. Though the first edition of "Concrete Cottages, Bungalows and Garages" was published in 1918, we note many of the drawings bear dates, which goes to prove that this new edition has been brought right up to date. We had occasion during the recent Building Trades Exhibition to comment on the Triangular concrete block system and to endeavour to convey to our readers some of the many advantages which this form of construction inspired. In this book a chapter is devoted to triangular blocks and illustrated by diagrams which will demonstrate in a very convincing manner all the remarks we recently made in favour of this system of construction. Amongst other chapters of interest the following are included: "In Situ Work," "Concrete Blocks," "Alternative Methods of Construction," "Machinery for Concrete Cottage Construction," "Designs for Cottages and Bungalows."



INTERIOR. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

Outspoken Letters of a Young Architect.

The following series of letters, starting in 1922, are interesting sidelights of the practice of a young architect, who naturally wishes to remain anonymous, but nevertheless feels that they may be of value to others who are going through a similar phase at the outset of their careers.

———— London.
———— 1922.

DEAR E——,

Very many thanks for your letter and the interest you are taking in my progress. As you say, things are not at all easy at first, and the mere fact of being able to put A.R.I.B.A. after one's name (though secretly I am very proud of it) has not as yet impressed the public in the slightest degree!

As a matter of fact I often wonder how on earth one can possibly attract a client.

I am, of course, extremely pleased to be an Associate at last, and consequently feel that I am now a real architect. In the first months of my arrogance I was wont to look on others as an unqualified herd. But I am now beginning to realise my limitations and envy those who have work, regardless of qualifications. I long for the opportunities that others seem to get and wish to goodness I had the chance of erecting some of their buildings.

To tell the truth, I ought to cultivate more "nerve." There have been occasions when I could have spread myself in society, but when it comes to the point I hesitate to "tout" for jobs in the blatant manner that one sometimes observes. Of course, the result is that some real, live, business architect steps in and collars the work. Up to the present I have shunned the idea of entering social life with the idea of material gain; nor do I wish to join a club with that object.

The result seems to be that I have to wait till some opportunity presents itself. Well, I've waited for a long time now, and disappointment has been my lot.

On one occasion I certainly did try to be a bit smart. I learnt that a large business firm were contemplating a rebuilding scheme, and without saying anything I prepared some sketch plans and generally remodelled their existing building with slight additions, and thus was able to produce a scheme which I considered was far more workable and economic than the proposition which, I had discovered,

they were about to undertake. After a time I found a mutual friend who could introduce me to a principal in the firm, and in due course I was given an opportunity of presenting and explaining my scheme.

They kept my drawings for weeks, and eventually the job went to a firm of architects who were financially interested in the concern; the builders, likewise, were able to secure the contract as they were on some such footing with their employers.

The building is now finished, and I console myself by revelling in the bitterness of outraged feelings, as I pass it each day to my office and note that its appearance is not at all unlike my own original design.

As you are aware, I have only a limited capital, and I don't really know how far I am justified in laying this out to attract business, or indeed the best method of doing so.

I am trying to bear in mind professional etiquette and all that.

Perhaps you would be good enough to write to me when you have a moment and indicate the lines on which it is permissible to work in order to attract clients.

I have no doubt that in your own experience there have been

I remain, yours ever sincerely,
B——.

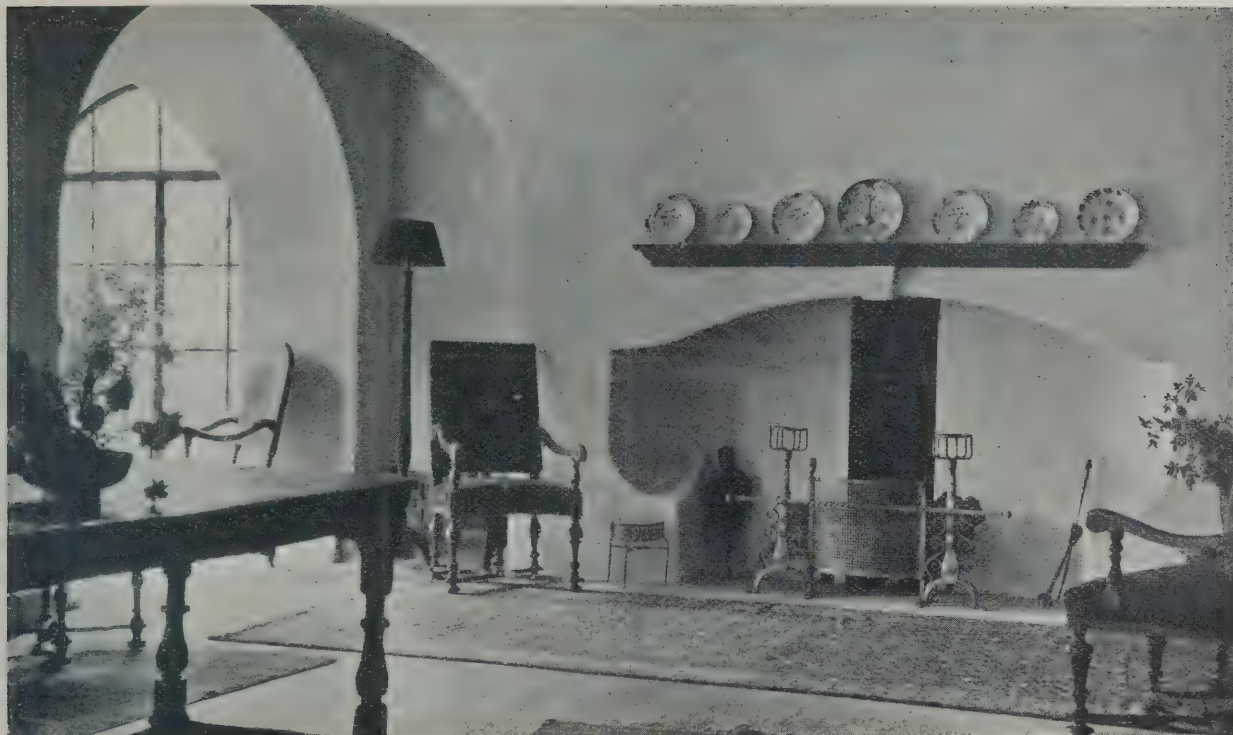
———— Surrey.
———— 1922.

MY DEAR B——,

I was very glad to get your letter and hear about your present—and, I trust, temporary—struggles. I know exactly how you feel about things, and it recalls my own early days as an architect.

There is, however, a great difference between the conditions with which you are faced and those of my time. You are the product of the architectural schools, and you have been bold enough to launch out on your own, whereas I was articled to ——— and, as you know, subsequently acquired his practice; so I always had a series of ready-made clients.

Nevertheless, I fully appreciate that nowadays, in the present overcrowded state of the profession, it is essential for an architect to look for clients and not wait for them to come to him.



INTERIOR, SHOWING FIREPLACE. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

Under these circumstances there are various courses open by which a young man may get his name before the public and so build up a connection.

First of all, there is the question of competitions. Very often you may find this is heartbreaking work, but should you at some time find yourself to be the successful competitor, I have no doubt you would quickly make a name for yourself.

Make sure, by the way, that the competition is run on proper lines. One has known occasions in which the result has been a foregone conclusion, and it was only held in order to placate shareholders. In any case, the work and time you expend, however fruitless it may seem, will repay you in the end, in that it keeps one up to date in the various methods of building and in the use of new materials.

Secondly, there is the advisability of entering into partnership with a firm already established, but I cannot advise you there, as each case must be governed by circumstance, and it will probably be a question of what capital you could command. Furthermore, I think it would be better, if you thought of entertaining such a proposal, to be able to approach your future partners when you have a certain amount of work on hand, or are in a position to introduce a clientèle.

Thirdly, I would advise you to write as much as possible on architecture. If you are keen on any particular subject, such as the lighting of factories or planning of schools, hospitals, etc., publish all you can on your pet subject, and sooner or later you will be looked on as an authority on this special branch of work. You may say this is advertising, but it is a very gentlemanly way of doing it.

Fourthly, we come to the question of social activities. This is a much more delicate subject, and one where personality and tact will stand you in good stead. I quite understand that you naturally flinch at cultivating only those who might be of service to you in this respect. But, quite frankly, it is no use being squeamish nowadays. To be a successful architect you must push yourself and lose no opportunity of getting in with people who can put work in your way (I am writing this, of course, unofficially; but really you will find these views are held by most members of the profession, unless, of course, they are at the very top of the tree—in which case, they have no need to wait, as work flows easily into their offices). It isn't so much what you do, but the way you do it. It seems to me, therefore, that it is permissible, and, in fact, advisable, to enter society and seek the company of those who are interested in building or in the expansion of property.

The larger the circle of friends, the better. The cleverest architect will find his innate genius of no avail unless he has friends to help him.

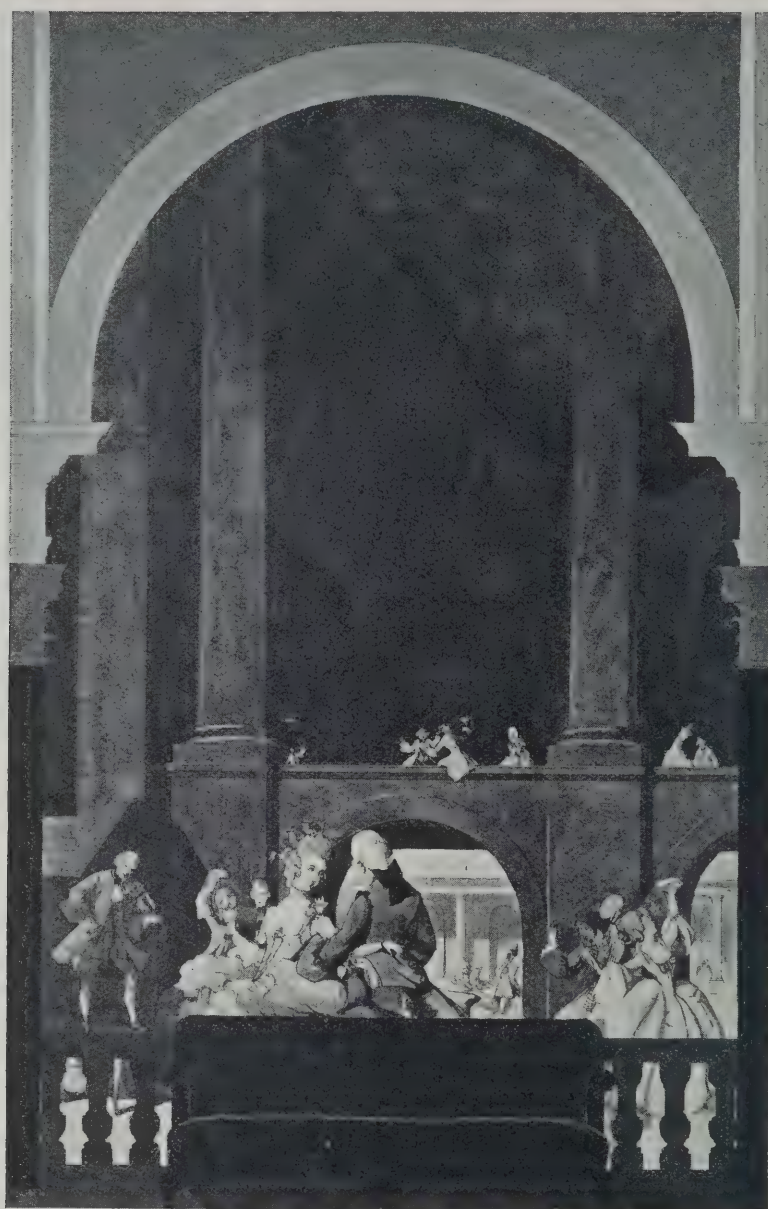
Consequently, I would advise you to take stock of your capital and ask yourself for how long and to what extent you can devote time and money to making yourself socially agreeable without any hope of immediate return. In other words, how much capital are you prepared to sink in yourself? You see, if a man desires to purchase a business, he would have to lay out a certain amount of capital on its purchase and its goodwill; and you, too, must create your own goodwill by endeavouring to obtain an influential circle of friends. If you do this, I don't think you will regret the self-investment of this money or need view it as an extravagance. You must appreciate the difference between an artist and an architect, and realise that the former can acquire fame by the force of producing fine pictures, whereas the architect can never succeed by preparing a wonderful design or first-class drawings, unless there is first an opportunity created or a situation which necessitates his being approached by a client. You, being in a profession which acts in an advisory capacity, cannot create that opportunity. Therefore, I say again, cultivate as many friends as possible. The only standard which can be set is the standard of good manners, and I know you well enough to realise that I need not say anything on that subject.

There is just one word more. You must be discreet and study human nature. By pushing yourself too boldly, or, on the other hand, too obsequiously, you may give offence to certain types of people. There are many others who would probably respect you if you took the "bull by the horns" and approached them fearlessly. The one might consider your behaviour unprofessional, while the other would judge you a good business man. You will no doubt meet all sorts and conditions of clients, and you will have many disappointments and rebuffs, but you must take things philosophically and keep a sense of humour. I need only remind you of the old story of the architect who had called on a client while certain work was in progress at her house. On hearing he was waiting in the hall, she sent a reply by her maid that he must come some other time, as she couldn't have any hammering to-day!

I trust this letter will be of use to you, and that I shall hear good news of you shortly.

I remain, ever your own friend,

E——.



MURAL DECORATION FOR A DANCE HALL. G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

"Plays and Playhouses."

Miss Defries recently delivered a lecture at the Building Trades' Exhibition on the subject of "Plays and Playhouses." The lecture was given under the auspices of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union. We have no wish to underestimate the value of continually emphasising the salient needs of the actor and other factors which govern the planning of theatre, but Miss Defries told us nothing that we should not expect every member of the architectural profession to give every consideration to when attempting to design such a building. Very few are able in this life to work out the ideal. Conditions are seldom, if ever, such as would permit any professional architect to attempt to carry out even a small part of what Miss Defries characterises as the absolute essentials. It may be that we only possess one theatre that is lighted by an up-to-date system. We cannot recall to mind any theatre open to the public that has been built in London in recent times. Mr. Schaufelberg's Theatre in Russell Street, Drury Lane, is not open to the public yet; and therefore we are unable to judge the lighting installation. In Germany many of the theatres enjoy State aid or municipal support. Great numbers have been erected on open sites; none, or very few, have been planned in crowded and cramped positions such as our London houses occupy. The entire conditions on the Continent are different. We are not depreciating Miss Defries' statement when we venture to state that many of our electric lighting specialists could knock spots off the Germans (to use a vulgarism) were they given an opportunity. We are glad that Miss Defries did not mention the theatre in which this wonderful installation could be seen. We are quite prepared to enter into fair competition with any country, but, somehow or other, we are inclined to view German competition at the present time in an unfavourable light.

We also think that the advocates of a National Theatre who have selected Charing Cross Station as their site would be well advised to remove from their minds any possibility of its fruition. Only recently an important official of the Southern Railway Company stated quite clearly the company's views on this subject.

We are surprised that the lecturer should condemn the erection of museums. We think that she is right in stating that our needs lie in the erection of a market, workshops and living places. But, seeing that she is interested in a National Theatre scheme, we should have thought it irrelevant to have raised the question of the museums. Some of us experience a great pleasure and a constant source of inspiration from the visiting of a museum.

Nobody will question the superior claims of a museum as a source of educational value. A theatre can have great educational aims, but it can hardly claim these as being superior to those of a museum.

The lecturer proceeded with a grand scheme. She referred to a Mr. Herbert's model. In this model the designer, Mr. Herbert, allotted a site for a museum, the same which seemed to offend Miss Defries. She further quotes from a speech made by Mr. Gordon Craig at the Theatre Exhibition held some time ago at South Kensington Museum; whilst it is only a small item, we conclude the lecturer referred to the Victoria and Albert Museum, at some time known as the South Kensington Museum. Mr. Gordon Craig is referred to by the lecturer as having said that, in addition to a National Theatre, an experimental theatre would be needed. Miss Defries continued and assigned to the Old Vic. the rôle of the Artists' Theatre, "where apprentices would be trained. The museum suggested

in Mr. Herbert's model would become the craft workshop, market place, exhibition galleries, studios, offices, and living place, with restaurant, music rooms, libraries, meeting rooms and dance hall, with restaurants." The American would be justified in classifying such a building as "Some building."

Miss Defries apparently has entirely forgotten the existence of that very real force, "the Nonconformist conscience," which, whether we agree with it or not, is sufficiently strong to put an end to the possibility of obtaining State aid for the theatre.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—We shall be obliged if you will kindly mention in your columns that on Friday last, April 11, before Mr. Justice Eve, we were granted an injunction against Messrs. Cook, White & Co., Ltd., wholesale timber merchants and oil and colourmen, of Leigh-on-Sea, restraining them from infringing the Solignum trade mark by selling liquid which has no relation to Solignum.

This is another of several cases which have come for trial recently, and we shall be obliged if you will kindly emphasise that we intend to take action in all cases of substitution.—Yours, etc.,

MAJOR & CO., LTD.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—On the 1st instant considerable publicity was given in the Press to a function which marked the termination of the late Disposal and Liquidation Commission. Since that date references to that event have been made, and it would appear that an erroneous impression has been created in the minds of the public generally, in that they have concluded that the whole of the Government surplus stocks have been liquidated.

There is in fact a large and valuable stock of machinery, etc., remaining for disposal, for the sale of which we were by special contract in June last appointed agents to the Government. Whilst we have already realised a large proportion of that stock, we have yet millions of pounds' worth of extremely useful stores of almost every description still to be sold on behalf of the Government.

In the interests of the public it is most desirable that these facts be brought to their notice, since the revenue obtained from the sale of these surplus stores is a contribution to the National Exchequer.—Yours, etc.,

GEORGE COHEN & ARMSTRONG DISPOSAL CORPORATION.



R.A. 1924.
PATTERNS OF SOUND. CHRISTINE GREGORY, SCULPTOR.

"Here would be housed not only all the craft workers and their apprentices, in all the crafts needed by the nation as well as by the theatre, but also all the societies of all the arts in the Empire." It is quite easy to realise that the lecturer can have had very little experience with any of the many societies of art. Who is going to suggest that these bodies are going to leave their comfortable quarters and take up their abode in a central building near the Old Vic? Most of our societies are engaged in internal quarrels of their own. Many of them serve dual purposes and would need to be unified. For the last forty years the architectural profession has been represented by two organisations who have been unable to find a scheme for unification. Amongst the sculptors there was at one time complete unity; to-day the Royal Society of British Sculptors does not embrace all the leading sculptors. Several men of great repute are not members. Photography is represented by more than one body. The Royal Academy of Fine Arts has splendid premises at Burlington House. Are these to be given up and their contents transplanted to a place near the Old Vic? Miss Defries stated that "It is a false idea to think of taxing the nation to set up our buildings; we can, as I have explained, pay for them ourselves." Except for the statement that two schemes exist which have funds—namely, the National Theatre scheme and the Charing Cross scheme—and the suggestion that "The Board of Trade and the Board of Education might also give such a plan a subsidy or some form of guarantee," we are unable to trace any tangible explanation of where the money is to come from for the erection of these buildings. The lecturer could have no real idea of the cost of such buildings and of their maintenance. If the Board of Trade and the Board of Education make grants the money comes from taxes. We should like to state that the following sentence leaves very little doubt in our minds that when these bodies are organised it is in their minds to ask for national State aid:—"It is useless for us to ask the nation to help us until we are organised to help ourselves and see the whole thing in the light of professional advancement."



R.A. 1924.
PATTERNS OF SOUND. CHRISTINE GREGORY, SCULPTOR.



THE HALL.
MESSRS. BRINSMEAD'S NEW PREMISES IN WIGMORE STREET. MESSRS. BENNETT AND HOSSACK.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MAY 9, 1874.

THE BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.

We are glad to learn that a society is about to be formed in Birmingham for the promotion of the education of the junior members and assistants of the profession. The model adopted is the Architectural Association of London, and the course of study will be similar, that is, classes will be formed for design, construction and practice; Papers will be read and discussed, and on Saturday afternoons buildings in course of erection or lately completed will be visited.

The entrance fee for every member is to be five shillings, and the annual subscription for those who earn twenty-five shillings a week and upwards is to be ten shillings and sixpence, and for those with a less salary seven shillings and sixpence. The meetings, as in London, are to be held on Friday evenings. The inaugural meeting of the Association will, by the permission of the Mayor of Birmingham, be held in the Town Hall Committee Room on Tuesday next. The chair is to be taken by Mr. J. J. Bateman, F.R.I.B.A., and during the evening an address will be delivered by Mr. T. Roger Smith. During the day it is intended to hold an exhibition of architectural drawings and sketches in the orchestra of the Town Hall. Arrangements have been already made for the Association commencing work without delay. The use of a room has been kindly given by Mr. D. Smith, of Temple Row; and on Saturday next, the 16th inst., the first visit to a building will be made—St. Martin's Church being selected, and the architect of the restoration works, Mr. J. A. Chatwin, has undertaken to conduct the members through the building. The honorary secretary, we may say, is Mr. Alfred Reading, Town Hall Chambers, 86 New Street, Birmingham. To show the usefulness of such a society it is unnecessary to say a word. Everyone who knows anything of architectural work in this country is aware that for students the practice of even the best offices can be supplemented by such study as can be found in classes like those about to be established in Birmingham. But the success will depend mainly upon the members themselves. If they are self-reliant, and give close attention to the meetings, and especially to the classes, there is no reason why the society should not be equal to any other in the provinces. We hope that the assistants and pupils in the Birmingham offices will rally round the Association.

Users of Foundation Material may obtain Pit Tippings free from the Bedwas Colliery. Particulars may be had from The Secretary, Bedwas Navigation Colliery Co., Ltd., Bedwas, Mon.

The "Fortune" Theatre.

Illustrations of this building were published in our issue of last week. The general contractors are Messrs. Bovis, Ltd. The principal marble work was executed by Messrs. Anselm, Odling and Sons, and the lead and iron work by Messrs. Henry Hope and Sons, Birmingham, and Messrs. Galsworthy, of Newman Street, W. The sanitary installation has been carried out by Messrs. Davis, Bennett & Co. The curtain and draperies were executed by Messrs. J. Avery & Co., of Great Portland Street, W. The steel-work is by Messrs. Archibald D. Dawney & Sons, Ltd. Messrs. The Trussed Concrete Steel Co., Ltd., were the reinforced concrete engineers. The electrical installation has been carried out by Messrs. Ohms, Ltd., under the direct supervision of Mr. P. Godfrey, who acted as consulting engineer. The electrical intake rooms have been equipped by Messrs. Ernest F. Moy & Co., who are also responsible for the stage switchboard. The stage electrical installation is a combination of the English batten and spotlight system with the Schwabe Hazait system of indirect lighting. The stage hoisting gear, as well as many other items connected with the stage equipment, has been supplied by Messrs. Bullivant & Gimson. Messrs. Merryweather are responsible for the safety curtain.

Housing.

The Torquay Town Council has passed the plans for the following houses: one in Seaway Lane, six in Westhill Avenue, 64 houses on the Daison Estate, three houses in St. Margaret's Avenue, two in Newton Road, eight in Hartop Road, eight houses in Sherwell Lane, three in Shiphay Lane, twelve in Sherwell Valley (off Mallock Road), 23 adjoining Lummaton Quarry, Happaway Road.

The Town Council of West Hartlepool has approved of the following plans for houses: 27 to be erected in Pallerdale Street, two in Stockton Road, 10 in Allendale Street, and two semi-detached houses in Chatham Gardens.

Eighty-six houses are to be erected under a housing scheme at Torry, Aberdeen.

The Beeston Urban District have received permission to erect a further twenty houses. The Bournemouth Corporation has decided to build an additional hundred houses by contract. The Bradford Corporation Housing Committee has received the sanction to borrow £83,800 for the erection of 200 concrete cottages on the Bierley House Estate, and another sum of £8,535 in respect to the building of 22 houses on the Lower Grange Estate.

Four houses are to be built in Heys Lane, Blackburn.

Halls and Institutes.

The Chamber of Trade, Bexhill, are urging the Town Council to build an entertainment hall on the coastguard site.

A public hall is to be built at Chasewaler Scorrier, Cornwall.

A village hall scheme at Droxford, Bishop's Waltham, Hants, is on foot. Between £1,000 and £1,200 will be required for the scheme.

The Folkestone Corporation is reported to have given instructions for the preparation of plans for a pavilion to accommodate 1,500 persons. It is to be hoped that something tangible will at last arise out of this report. Messrs. Palmer Jones and Grant were the successful architects in an architectural competition for the Folkestone band stand just before the war. The scheme was never carried out.

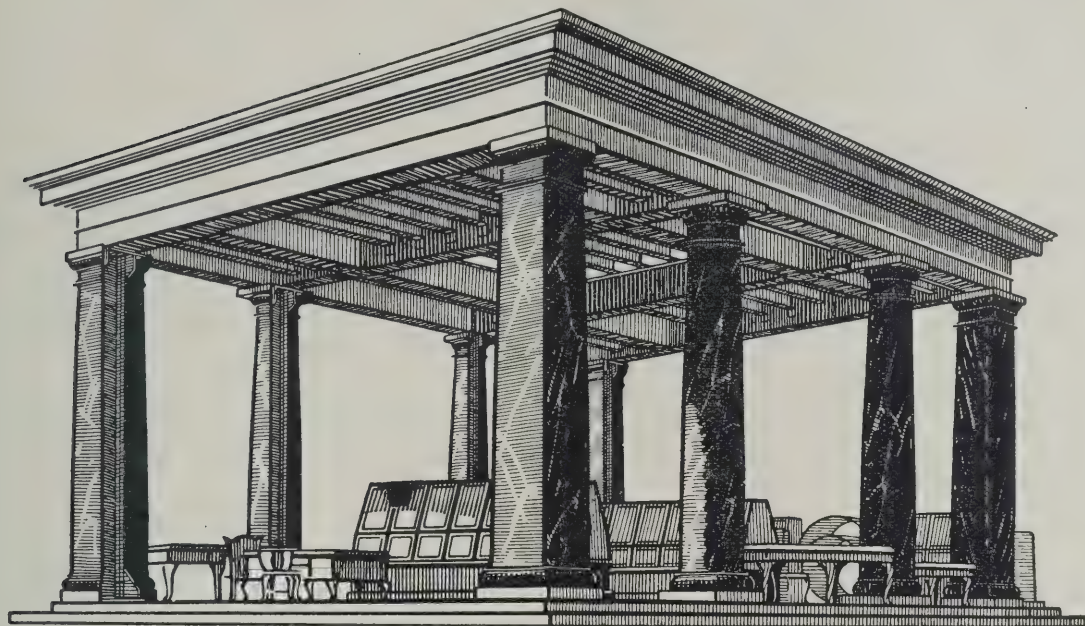
At Long Stanton, Cambridge, a committee has been appointed to carry out a scheme for the erection of a village hall and institute.

At Wilton-le-Wear, Durham, a committee has been called together with the object of supervising the necessary means for collecting the necessary funds for a war memorial, which is to take the form of a memorial institute.

The plans for a lectural hall in Lockview Road, Harleston Street, were passed by the Belfast Corporation. The promoters are the Fisherwick Presbyterian Church Committee.

The London County Council announce the early publication, through Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., of the ninth volume of their Survey of London, dealing with the Parish of St. Helen, Bishopsgate. It contains a full description of the Church of St. Helen and its monuments, with drawings and photographs of all details of value, followed by an historical account of the Nunnery of St. Helen and the Parish Church. Certainly no building in the City exceeds this in interest, and full advantage has been taken of the recent discoveries during building operations in St. Helen's Place to bring the account up to date. A limited number of copies are on sale at £2 2s. to the public.

STAND 43 AT WEMBLEY



THE COMPANY'S STAND AT THE BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION, DESIGNED BY SIR EDWIN LUTYENS, R.A.

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Obituary

ALBERT E. MURRAY [F.], R.H.A., F.R.I.A.I.

It is with great regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. Albert E. Murray, of Dublin.

Mr. Murray was articled to his father, the late William George Murray, R.H.A. He was a student of the old Metropolitan School of Art, Dublin, where he won silver and bronze medals and a South Kensington medal. He became a member of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland in 1866, nearly sixty years ago, and was at the time of his death the oldest member and "the father" of the Institute. He was honorary secretary and treasurer to the Institute for over seventeen years and conducted its affairs on a basis of sound economy and thrift, so much so that, having found it in a state of bankruptcy, he was enabled, on resigning office, to hand over the substantial sum of over five hundred pounds of accumulated investments. During his long occupancy of the office of honorary secretary he was very jealous of the honour and prestige of the Institute, and exercised a scrupulous care in regard to the qualifications of applicants for admission to membership. In 1914 the R.I.A.I. elected him president, which office he held for three years until 1917. He also held the honorary office of Professor of Architecture to the Royal Hibernian Academy, and for some years acted as examiner in architecture to the National University of Ireland.

Mr. Murray had an extensive practice throughout Ireland, specialising in hospital work. Amongst his chief works were the Cairns Memorial Wing to the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin; Carnegie Free Library, Waterford; work for the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland; the Royal City of Dublin Hospital and Nurses' Home; additions to the Adelaide Hospital, the Coombe Hospital, the Old Men's Asylum, Waterford County Infirmary, Londonderry County Infirmary, Fermanagh County Infirmary, Cottage Hospital, Kilkenny; Harding Boys' Home, Dublin; maltings at Roscrea, Nenagh, and Dublin; works for the Royal Bank, Dublin; many private residences and business premises, etc. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1889, and was a Royal Hibernian Academician.

As a witness in law cases relating to light and air, and similar subjects of dispute, Mr. Murray's services were for many years in great request. As an arbitrator or umpire in such matters he was frequently employed, his decisions being marked by sound common sense.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. T. F. Tickner, F.R.I.B.A., one of the leading architects in Coventry, which took place suddenly at his residence on Friday, the 4th ultimo. He had been suffering for a short time from influenza, which affected his heart, and this brought about his demise. He was in his 59th year, and leaves a widow and family. Mr. Tickner, having served his articles, practised in Coventry during the whole of the remainder of his life and did a great deal of important work in the city and neighbourhood. He specialised upon the resuscitation of old-time buildings and had been engaged upon many church restorations. He was elected a member of the Society of Architects in 1888, was a member of the Birmingham Architectural Association, and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. He was architect for the Coventry Board of Guardians and architectural surveyor for the Rural District Council. One of the most important works he had carried out in recent years was the designing of a model colliery village at Binley, on the outskirts of the city, and he had quite recently completed plans for the addition of a children's ward to the Poor Law Infirmary which received warm commendation from the Ministry of Health. He was an ardent and enthusiastic archaeologist and did a good deal of thoughtful research work in relation to Coventry's ancient buildings. He was for several years a member of the City Council, and continued to take an intelligent interest in the public life of the city and endeared himself to all who were brought into contact with him by his helpfulness and courtesy.

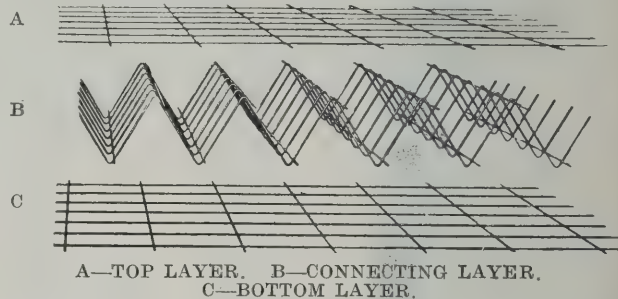
Waterloo Bridge.

By suspending the usual Standing Orders, the London County Council recently authorised the Improvements Committee to accept a tender, on the basis of cost price with a percentage for profit, for the construction of a temporary bridge adjoining Waterloo Bridge. The committee has been advised that time will not permit of the arranging of a contract on the basis of a firm price, and by the Council's suspension of Standing Orders they will now be enabled to open negotiations with firms of "known competence," with the object of arriving at an agreement for the execution of the work. The form of contract will permit the inclusion of a clause providing for its termination immediately if it should prove unsatisfactory.

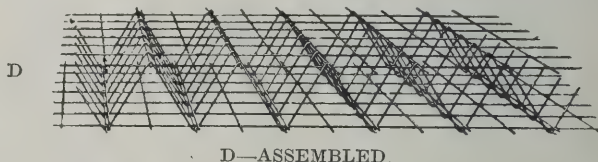
Trade Notes.

Two Important Contracts.

The employment of reinforced concrete construction in the new Limerick Road Reconstruction scheme is but another pointer to the trend of developments in modern road engineering. The practical advantages of reinforced concrete—its economy, strength and permanence, its ability to carry modern traffic—are too well known to call for elaboration. For this particular contract "Maxweld" double layer reinforcement steel to British standard specification has been approved and adopted, and the makers, Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., reinforced concrete engineers, of Middlesbrough and London, are now engaged on the manufacture and delivery of the first 36,000 square yards of their well-known product required in connection with this work.

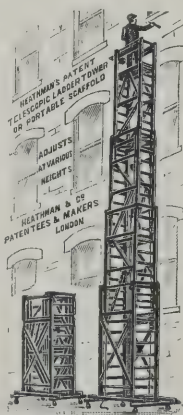


"Maxweld" double layer reinforcement is a steel wire mesh designed to take up the tensile stresses that occur along the lower or upper part of the slab under certain conditions, and also to provide against the diagonal tension stresses resulting from the rapid increase in wheel loads combined with higher traffic speed. Expansion and contraction stresses are also provided for. Briefly, it consists of a bottom layer, a connecting layer, and a top layer, for all of which "Maxweld" electrically welded fabric is used. The three components are assembled and



secured together on the site. The illustrations show method of assembly by the simple operation of sliding a plain rod through the loops formed at the top and bottom of the stooling corrugations. The girder-like construction of the assembled units ensures maximum distribution of reinforcing strength over a wide area. The Limerick Road Reconstruction is being carried out by the contractor, Mr. P. Dillon, under the direction of J. J. Peacocke, Esq., B.E., the borough engineer.

Messrs. Hill & Co., Ltd., are also to be congratulated in securing the contract for the supply of the reinforcement for 692 concrete piles to be used in the extension of the Grain Warehouse, Edinburgh Dock, Leith. These concrete piles are 45 feet long by 13 inches square, and the main steel bars are 1½ inches in diameter. The auxiliary hoops and helicals to be used are standard "Maxweld" fittings.



For interior and exterior cleaning and decoration of buildings a large saving may be often effected by the use of Heathman's Telescopic Ladder Towers, which are lent on hire or sold outright. The Piccadilly Restaurant, Café Monico, Portman Rooms and many other buildings have been cleaned and redecorated with their aid without stopping the business of the establishments, because they can be draped to hide them or can be used at night and removed during the day. Christchurch Cathedral at Oxford is a recent example where one was recently hired and with the aid of a vacuum cleaner the interior was to the height of 63 feet effectually cleaned in a fortnight without cessation of the services in the Cathedral.

In cleaning the London School Board offices a saving of £65 was effected over the cost of pole scaffolding by the employment of four of these towers with planking from one to the other.

Mr. Heathman at his Parson's Green Factory, Fulham, makes various kinds of portable scaffolds and a 65 feet Telescopic Tower is kept at Windsor Great Forest for lopping trees, while the 85 feet high beech trees in the half-mile avenue at Mickleour have been twice, at intervals of six years, pruned by this means.

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Muhammadan Architecture.*

Mr. Martin Shaw Briggs has made a reputation for careful and painstaking investigation of little traversed provinces of architectural history. His work on Baroque architecture formed a most interesting description of a phase of architectural development which is either omitted as unworthy serious thought or incorrectly dealt with in many of the standard works. We hope he will have time and inclination to make Baroque the subject of a very much larger work, as it is a phase of design which is full of suggestion to us and shows how elasticity of expression can be combined with Renaissance forms without detracting from their grandeur or significance.

The present work on the Muhammadan architecture of Egypt and Palestine is interesting in another way, because it illustrates the architectural expression of civilisation which is fundamentally unlike our own.

Excepting in India, where it lost many of its more familiar characteristics by its absorption of Hindu forms and the work of Hindu craftsmen, Muhammadan architecture always seems to be little influenced by the traditions prevalent in the conquered countries. In spite of the use of Christian Churches and Roman remains in the East and the employment of craftsmen and artists in the various countries, Moslem architecture always bears the stamp of an alien civilisation. The enforced avoidance of decoration founded on natural forms and of sculpture is undoubtedly the dominating differentiating element which distinguishes it from all other forms of architectural expression, the almost total elimination of mouldings and the employment of patterned geometrical ornament in low relief, and the constant employment of colour in decoration, tend to render it strange to European standards of thought. We agree with the author when he says:—

"In the field of architectural composition we have to allow the Muslims the credit for the pointed arch—with all that it meant to western architecture, but very little besides. They learned their stereotomy from Armenian masons and captive Crusaders, but they squandered much of their skill on joggled voussoirs of incredible elaboration. Their use of stalactites was quite unique, and generally skilful, but decorative rather than constructional. They used arches and vaults of their own design, but they contributed nothing new to our knowledge of dome building or vaulting. Their architecture never possessed that magnificent sense of balanced forces that is the glory of Gothic where vaults and domes and arches all rise together naked and strong. Nor has it those qualities of perfect and studied proportions that make Renaissance architecture so attractive to a trained mind and so soulless to the crowd. There is about it, even allowing for its exotic character in our eyes, something wayward and bizarre that cannot be defined. It has none of the mouldings or carving on high relief that form so important a part of our European styles."

The mastery of surface decoration achieved doubtless

renders it more attractive to those who are more interested in decorative treatment than in the greater problems of architecture. We feel it, in a word, to be a minor style used in a grand manner, having many of the properties of gorgeous scene painting rather than of thought-out analysis of structure; a background for the life of the East rather than the concern of those who believed in the mission of architecture as a great art. Arch and dome as used in Muhammadan architecture have a coldness and hardness of form unknown in either the Gothic or Renaissance architecture of Europe.

The isolation and crudity of the religious faith preached by Muhammad, a faith undeveloped through the centuries which passed, has doubtless had its effect on the art of form. The tolerance displayed by the more enlightened Moors in Spain largely took the direction of leaving those of other opinions alone than of learning from them, and Muslim architecture is marked by none of the unrest and curiosity which have modified historical forms in Europe.

The mosque with its open courtyard surrounded by ranges of columns did not form so inspiring a problem as the European church, while the minaret, graceful and slight in its outline, cannot be compared in dignity with the towers and spires of European buildings.

The book is divided into 14 chapters dealing with:—

1. The Birth of Islam; (2) the First Mosques, A.D. 622–868; (3) the Mosque of Ibn Tulun at Cairo; (4) the Fatimads in Cairo; (5) the Architecture of Saladin and the influence of the Crusaders; (6) the buildings of the Turkish Mamelukes, 1250–1382; (7) the buildings of the Circassian Mamelukes, 1382–1517; (8) Architecture after the Turkish Conquest; (9) Domestic Architecture; (10) the Nature of Saracenic Architecture; (11, 12 and 13) Craftsmanship in various materials; and (14) Conclusion. It is very fully illustrated by a very fine collection of 252 photographs and plans, the latter partly taken from standard works corrected and examined by the author. The copious list of authorities quoted shows that Mr. Briggs, as usual, has taken meticulous care to ensure accuracy and completeness. The book is the outcome of research made during war service, and is specially valuable, as we often have to rely for our information of foreign work on the researches of those who have not had an architectural education and whose observations cannot for that reason be considered as being likely to be either exactly correct or reliable.

Like the Cathedral of Famagousta in Cyprus, the buildings erected by the Crusaders in Palestine have all the features of Gothic architecture, but though Eastern forms in Spain and Sicily undoubtedly influenced European architecture there, the corresponding works of the West erected in the East appear to have had little influence on the development of Muhammadan architecture.

Just as the arrangement of the mosque has remained almost unaltered for hundreds of years, that of domestic buildings has been almost entirely unchanged, and the

* "Muhammadan Architecture in Egypt and Palestine." By Martin S. Briggs. Oxford: At the Clarendon Press. 84s. net.

Our Illustrations.

NEW LOGGIA AND TERRACE AT COOMBE RIDGE, KINGSTON. E. GUY DAWBER, Architect.
 GARDEN COURT, BANK OF ENGLAND. HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect.
 THE LASCAR MEMORIAL, CALCUTTA. W. I. KEIR, Architect.

Cairene houses contain a maq'ad or belvedere facing north and a malquaf or roof ventilator over, features which may be traced on the frescoes of ancient Thebes. These, with the mushrabiyyah or lattices over window openings in which are arranged shelves for holding pots of water to be kept cool by the wind are invariable features. The necessity for seclusion determines the high blank walls, broken by projecting bays to enable women to see out without being visible, are constant features. The privacy of the house is further ensured by the arrangement of the entrances where a doorkeeper is stationed and the entrance passage is often crooked at an angle so that the house cannot be looked into. There are few houses of known antiquity, partly from their flimsy construction and partly because it is held unlucky to own a house in which death has occurred. But, as in the case of Moscow and other old Russian cities, though frequent rebuilding is carried out, the type remains constant and custom stereotypes old forms. It is interesting to note that stained glass is used in windows and doors, but in a manner entirely different from our own, small pieces of coloured glass being set in slabs of plaster bevelled on the inside, and arranged so as to give the effect in intense sunlight of a collection of gems.

Mr. Briggs's concluding sentences should be quoted. The architecture "is undeniably lighthearted, joyous and dainty in temperament, if architecture be allowed to have temperament. But it is fundamentally and finally the expression of a great religious faith; it has made for itself a place in the history of art, and where it stands unharmed among the splendid sunshine of its natural surroundings it has charmed the world with a fascination that will never die."



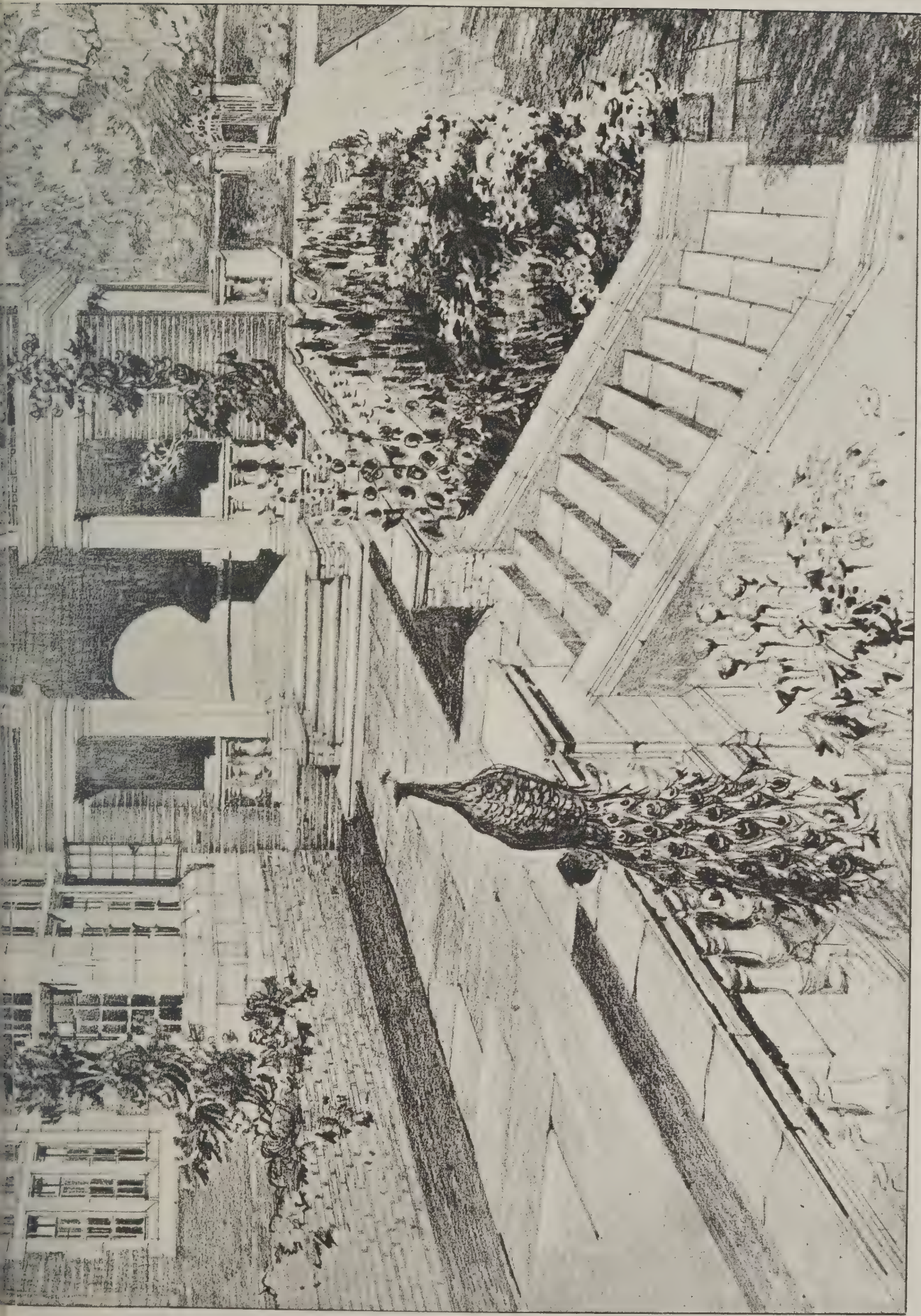
THE LASCAR MEMORIAL, CALCUTTA. W. I. KEIR, Architect.



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THE ARCHITECT, MAY 16th, 1924.





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R.A. 1924.—NEW LOGGIA AND TERRACE AT COOMBE RIDGE, KINGSTON.

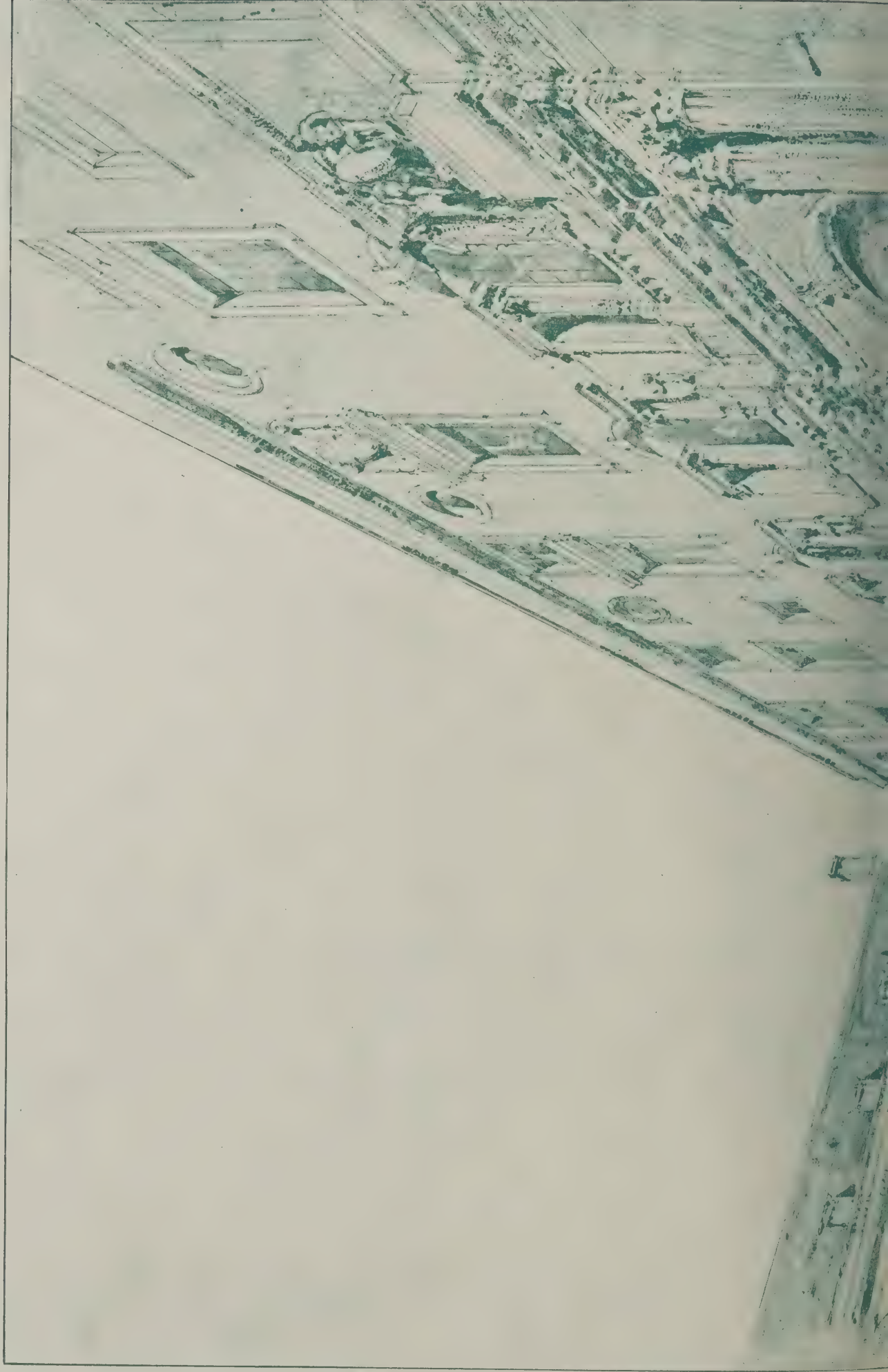
E. GUY DAWBER, ARCHITECT.

DRAWING BY P. D. HEPWORTH.

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THE ARCHITECT, MAY 16th, 1924





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R.A. 1924.—GARDEN COURT. BANK OF ENGLAND.

HERBERT BAKER A.R.A. ARCHT.

DRAWING BY P. D. HEPWORTH

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R.A. 1924.—THE LASCAR MEMORIAL, CALCUTTA.

W. I. KEIR, ARCHT. ECT.

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Notes and Comments.

The Building Outlook.

We hope that the employers will, as they state, adhere to the terms they have offered, viz., an advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour and special consideration of the London men by a Joint Committee of employers and operatives. The overwhelming vote in favour of a strike was given on a ballot of 25 per cent. of those entitled to vote, so it may not mean very much. It would be well for once to emphasise the fact that the unions cannot expect to advance their cause by breaking agreements and advancing terms which are clearly impossible in the hope that Government will intervene to procure their success when other means have failed. We have had too many of these bogus settlements and it would be far better to face the inconvenience of a stoppage by strike and to see the thing through.

Waterloo Bridge.

It is comparatively infrequent that a controversial question is settled so dramatically by facts as the problem of Waterloo Bridge has been. The wisdom of the L.C.C. proposals has been made evident by the closure of the bridge on the score of safety. The subsidence of the piers, unlike similar conditions elsewhere, has been clearly visible to all who have passed by the bridge during the last two weeks, the sinking of the roadway and distortion of the arches being very noticeable. As we have said, the suggestion that a busy traffic way should not be widened when its reconstruction was absolutely necessary was clearly unanswerable and impossible, and we congratulate the L.C.C. for having dealt with the question in so business-like and speedy a manner. It is also a subject for congratulation that the bridge is to retain its historic form and that the masonry is simply to be transposed to the new foundations which will be made outside the present bridge. We could ill afford to lose the most beautiful of our bridges and the Council has shown a pleasant conservatism in agreeing to rebuild the bridge in its old form rather than designing it on new lines to provide wider clear water ways.

London Street Architecture.

The jury appointed by the Royal Institute of British Architects to award a medal to the architect who has designed the best street frontage completed during the year 1923 within a radius of four miles from Charing Cross has just completed its task.

After careful examination of drawings and photographs of all the buildings which were nominated for the honour, the jury has given its award in favour of "The Shepherd's Bush Pavilion," designed by Mr. Frank Verity, F.R.I.B.A., of 7 Sackville Street, London, W.

The jury consists of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Hon. F.R.I.B.A.; Mr. J. Alfred Gutch, F.S.A., President of the Royal Institute of British Architects; Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., F.R.I.B.A.; Mr. E. Guy Dawber, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.; Mr. Walter Tapper, F.R.I.B.A.

It will frequently happen that the most deserving buildings may escape notice, as it is often impossible to find out the best things done except by fortunate chance, because many men we know care very little for publicity, but are quite satisfied with the pleasure of doing good work.

Viscount Wolmer's Views on Building.

Viscount Wolmer has written a most excellent letter to "The Times" on the questions of building and housing, which is worth quoting as it very accurately and fairly defines the problems of the present day. He says:—

The late Conservative Government took the initial step necessary to check an unfair rise in the prices of building materials by appointing a Watching Committee, whose function it is to inform Parliament of the true facts. Undoubtedly this has been very efficacious in preventing a repetition of what occurred under the Lloyd George régime, and the reports of the Committee may yet supply us with data for future action. But the cost of building labour is much the biggest item in the cost of a house. Builders in London are now paid 1s. 8½d. per hour, which means £4 2s. for a 48-hour week, *plus* overtime for longer hours. In the provinces they are from £3 14s. to £3 18s., *plus* overtime. Why should a miner or an engineer who is earning 50s. be taxed in order that

builders may receive £4? Why should an agricultural labourer who is receiving 25s. be taxed in order that London builders may receive £4 2s., *plus* overtime? As far as the agricultural labourer is concerned, it is insult as well as injury, as he can never hope to live in a 9s. house, even though its cost has been forced up to 15s.

The truth is that the nation is being bled by the building trade, and the housing problem will not be solved until some politician has the courage to face that fact. We are told that the nation will never agree to protection or subsidies to enable agricultural labourers to be paid a good wage, but this is protection, and subsidies in the building trade run riot. If we are to have free trade, let us have it all round. Unless every one's wages are to be forced up by protection so that they can afford to pay the rents the builders exact, the only solution of the housing problem is to build cheaper houses. I should like to see the leaders of the Conservative Party declare that unless an adequate supply of houses can be built for £300 apiece, they would—if returned to power—take the necessary steps to enable it to be brought about. Such steps, though drastic, are by no means impossible.

1. If the Building Materials Prices Committee reported that the price of building materials were unduly high, the Government could place large orders for materials abroad and import them until the ring was broken. But probably only the threat would be necessary, provided it was not thought to be an empty threat.

2. An Expert Costings Committee could very quickly answer the question: "Given certain prices for materials, what remuneration to labour would enable a standard house to be built for £300, provided that no 'ca' canny' prevailed?" and also the question: "How much additional labour is required in the building trade to enable x number of houses to be built per annum?" If the building trade unions refused to accept a reasonable solution, the Government could engage 100,000 ex-Service unemployed and train them as bricklayers. There is nothing impossible or unfair in the suggestion. The initial trouble and expenditure would be considerable, but nothing comparable to that involved in Mr. Wheatley's proposals.

In regard to land, powers already exist to purchase land compulsorily for building purposes at fair prices, but if these powers are inadequate the Government should certainly pass whatever legislation is necessary to prevent building being held up by unreasonable landlords.

In short, I believe the community should arm the Government with powers that would prevent either the Building Materials Combine, the trade unions, or unreasonable landowners from impeding the building of houses. I am a Conservative and a Protectionist, I dislike Government interference, and distrust heroic measures, but with the facts before us it is impossible to resist the conclusion that building is being stifled by combinations of Capital and Labour. Subsidies are no solution to the problem; they are merely buying off the Danes. I believe that if any party came forward and said that they would not tolerate the necessities of the nation in housing, or anything else being exploited by monopolists, they would receive a very general support from the public.

Our policy in these matters has for too long been that of the Danegett, of which we are a little weary.

Smart Tactics in India.

Mr. P. W. Hubbard has related to us the following story, which we are publishing, as we think it may be of use to authorities who are not sufficiently up-to-date in their methods!

A certain Rajah in India desired to rebuild the town of ———, and being without funds, he raised the money in a very smart way. He discovered that in the original leases there was a clause which gave him as Freeholder the power to acquire his tenants' leasehold interests by paying compensation. He, therefore, required all occupiers of property to put a value on their holdings.

When lessees get such a request it is usually on account of a re-assessment for the purpose of raising a tax. They assumed that this was now the case, and being at liberty to put any figure they chose on the value of their interests, consequently stated a purely nominal value; whereupon the wily Rajah bought up the whole place on their own nominal valuations.

He then set out his new town on up-to-date town planning lines, and building leases were sold to the old occupiers at hugely increased figures. He thus gets a new town, vastly increases the rateable value, and makes a lot of money. Not at all bad!

Some corporations have been specially active in pushing forward plans which have been submitted to them in connection with Housing. The Belfast authorities passed the plans recently for two semi-detached villas in Straumills Road, ten villas in Somerton Road, eight semi-detached villas in Oldpark Road, two in Malone Avenue, twelve in Hillsborough Drive, eight semi-detached villas in Claar Park, four villas in Holland Park, five on the Antrim Road, four on the Sandown Road, and six villas in Martinez Avenue.



R.A. 1924. "PEACE" BRONZE PANEL EXECUTED FOR THE BLACKPOOL WAR MEMORIAL. GILBERT LEDWARD, Sculptor.

Sculpture at the R.A.

Foremost among this year's exhibits and by sheer intensity producing quite a hush in its vicinity is Mr. Reid Dick's fine *Pieta*, part of the Kitchener Memorial in St. Paul's. The Memorial takes the form of an enclosed chapel in which the recumbent marble of the Field Marshal (shown last year) will occupy the centre. On the end wall this *Pieta*, in Portland stone, will surmount the main pedestal. Following traditional lines as to treatment, Mr. Dick has yet infused into the group certain personal views of the subject. He shows, for instance, the Christ figure inclining towards the right, where in most of the familiar *Pietas*, such as the great Michelangelo in St. Peter's, the Bernini in San Giovanni-in-Laterano, or again in the more recent Duprè in Siena, the central figure invariably reclines to the left.

In composition the pyramidal form seems the logical outcome, and is already one much favoured by the sculptor. We recall him adhering to it almost too rigidly both in his "*Femina Victis*" (1914) and in the "*Kelpie*." Certainly it ensures dignity and balance, and in this case where the topical analogy calls for memorial interest there is value in the ease with which the eye follows upwards to rest on the sorrowing Mother. The youthful appearance of the Madonna seems here to call for comment, but in this Mr. Dick has ample authority. There is actually on record a conversation concerning this very point—Michelangelo himself when questioned explained to one, Condivi, how purity and chastity make for youthfulness and sweetness of expression even in women of mature years. Thus are we robbed of the one point to which exception might be taken,



R.A. 1924. PIETA GROUPE FOR LORD KITCHENER'S MEMORIAL CHAPEL, ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. W. REID DICK, A.R.A., Sculptor.



R.A. 1924. "DAWN." HERMAN CAWTHRA, Sculptor.

and we are left with nothing but praise! Indeed, the selection of Mr. Reid Dick for the memorial was well advised. It is doubtful if any of his compeers could have produced a work so full of tender feeling, so reverential in form and spirit, above all so technically perfect.

To turn from this to almost any other work or subject of poetic interest is to pass, if hardly from the sublime to the ridiculous, at least from satisfaction to uncertainty.

Mr. Gilbert Bayes' "The World we live in" is obviously fine in the sensation of quickening vitality that pulsates in this long, tense, muscular figure of primitive man, Nubian glass-blower, Moor, or whatever he be, with his huge feet and crisp little African beard. Romantic he is in himself, but why this obscure title? Will mystery increase our interest? And why, of all things, this sudden drop from imaginative appeal to the introduction of a base glass bauble? A melodramatic trick unworthy of so good an artist.

Romantic also is the small-scale, equestrian group, "The Greek Captive. The jealousy and revenge of Simiramis," by Mr. Frank Taubman, though here the poetic intention is all but lost in the flamboyant style. It is interesting to note in this how excess of rhythm tends to nullify dramatic action. Movement, after all, is but the negation of repose, and appears only by contrast with it: where all is movement little movement is. Mr. Taubman nevertheless gets well away from the commonplace, and in R.A. exhibitions this means much.

Another "Captive," this time borne on high by native bearers, the work of Mr. Ferdinand Blundstone, is directly opposite in manner, exhibiting so little action or dramatic impulse it leaves one cold, lacking even sufficient interest to query its elaborate intention—good as that may be.

Between these two extremes, the flamboyant over-

statement and the static tendency towards dullness, can be placed the great bulk of exhibits in the sculpture section, achieving no particular purpose, aimed apparently at none—simply sculpture!

Miss Mary Buchanan's "Threshold," for example, is a competent study from life, having certain fleshy qualities, but why life size?

Mr. Willis' statue "Fear" is another of the same—merely a model featuring fear, neither well enough observed to typify emotion nor in truth exact enough to create a character.

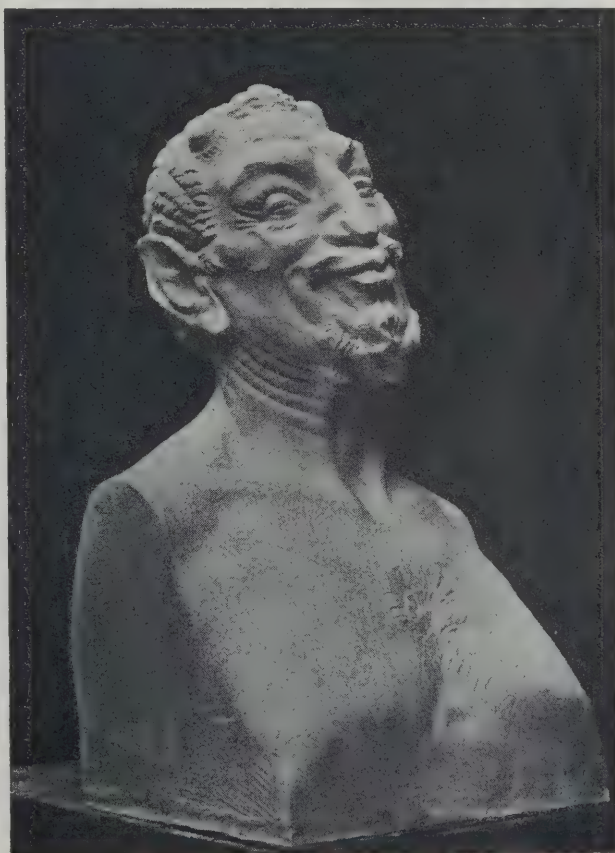
Mr. Merrifield's "Nymph" has qualities that make for prettiness. Mr. David Evan's "Meditation" belongs to this class also—and so on one might go, adding numerous busts, and classing the whole as "Sculpture." But these, it should be remembered, are in Gallery VI, and under the shadow of the Pieta naturally suffer much.

In the Lecture Room nothing large is good enough to overwhelm its neighbours. Such prominent works as Mr. Alfred Turner's "Vision," a youth with arms outstretched, hardly conveys the suggestion implied by the title, tending rather to recall a well known Rodin. Mr. Ledward's "Regeneration," like the "Vision," suffers from a slight failure to express exactly the precise emotion, but displays no lack of craft nor knowledge of the human figure. "The Spirit of Sleep" may be classed with these, though failing where the other two succeed, in that craftsmanship here is on a lower plane and like so many others is little more than a faithful study.

And, it must be added, equally uninteresting are three memorial figures by Sir W. Goscombe John.

With regard to portrait busts and smaller pieces, nothing in the room can compete with two works by Alfred Hardiman, winner of a Rome Scholarship, and only recently returned—returned to do work which promptly takes a foremost place. A head in bronze of "Christ," the agony intensely expressed, personal in treatment, based on the past naturally enough but so frankly, it disarms criticism, hard as bronze should be, angular as to planes, sharply defined in edges. Compared with this his "Boxer" shows characteristics strangely different. Sensitive and subtle where the other is direct, both display a quite precocious mastery.

H. A. C.



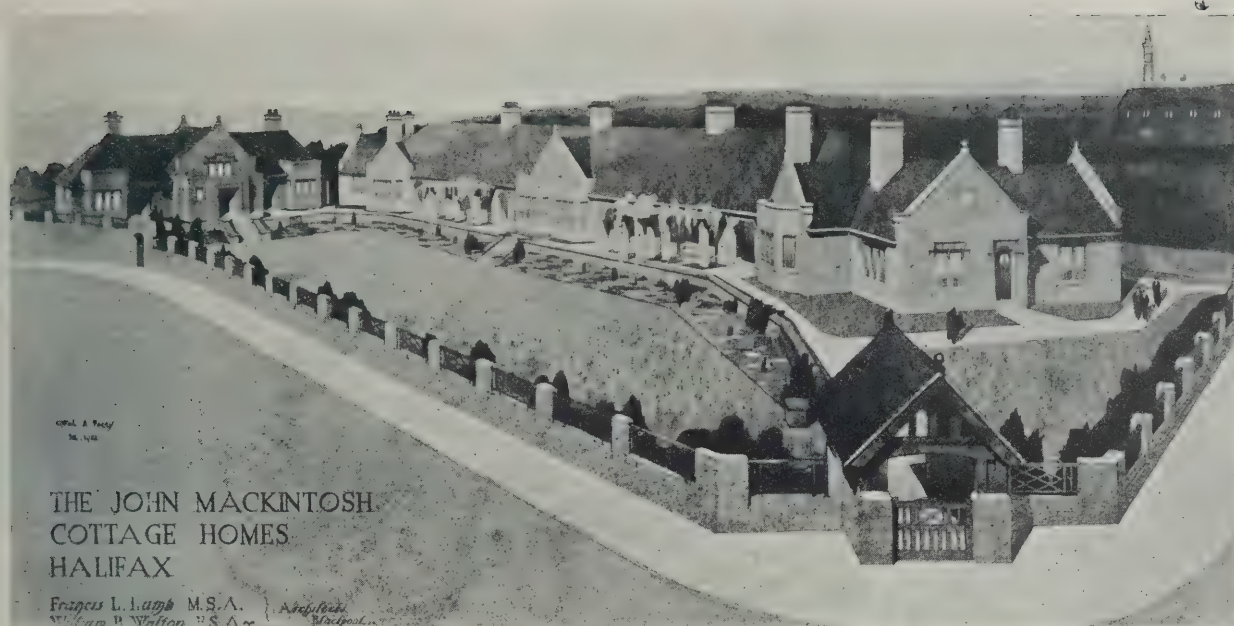
FAUN STUDY FOR A GARDEN TERMINAL.
F. DOYLE-JONES, Sculptor.



R.A. 1924. TO THE MOON. EDITH GABRIEL, Sculptor.



R.A. 1924. "DIANA" DECORATIVE GROUP FOR A GARDEN.
S. NICKOLSON BABB, F.R.B.S., Sculptor.



THE JOHN MACKINTOSH
COTTAGE HOMES
HALIFAX

Francis L. Lumb M.S.A. Architect
W. B. Walton F.S.A. Architect

R.A. 1924. THE JOHN MACKINTOSH COTTAGE HOMES, HALIFAX. FRANCIS L. LUMB & W. B. WALTON, Architects.

The Defence League's Election Appeal against the Official Unification Scheme.

The candidates for election on the Council of the R.I.B.A., whose names are appended, regret that the present, like last year's election, should be contested. They have, as the letters given in our correspondence columns show, done their best to avoid a contest, which has been made necessary by the Council's attitude. They regard the question of absorption to be a most important issue of principle, which should be dealt with on its merits, and not mixed up with the personal issues which have largely determined a Council election. An endeavour is being made to persuade the electorate that the possibility of obtaining a measure of Registration largely depended upon the absorption by the Institute of the Society, and to that end they have given Mr. Shortt's opinion. The Council of 1922-23 also obtained the opinion of Parliamentary Agents, which did not bear out the present Council's contentions. The Council, however, desire to regard the forthcoming election as equivalent to a referendum, a point of view we cannot accept as, in any case, the decision must be settled by a general meeting, as provided in our constitution. A preliminary appeal already undertaken by the League has secured over 900 adherents, including a very large number of our members in the Colonies. The effect of the proposed absorption would, incidentally, enable 1,500 men to obtain admission to the R.I.B.A., without test or examination, and thus lower the status of the Institute, and, by giving these men the right to call themselves "Chartered Architects," afford them in this respect the same privileges as our own Fellows and Associates. We ask you to read the careful analysis given in Appendix 3, which shows that the ultimate result of the present Council's policy would be to place the general control of Institute affairs in the hands of unqualified men. It may be stated that it is doubtful whether the members of the R.I.B.A., always assuming that Registration could be obtained, would (a) object to its being administered by an independent body, while it is wholly unbelievable to think (b) that the Society would oppose any measure of Registration by whomever it would be administered. If these two points be conceded, the whole basis on which Mr. Shortt gave his opinion falls to the ground. The *vital question* as to whether a measure of Registration had any chance of being adopted by Parliament was never put to Mr. Shortt. With regard to the argument that it is necessary, in the interests of the profession as a whole, that there should be not more than one professional body, this is not supported by the experience of other professions, as there is more than one Society representing the interest of the Lawyers, the Doctors, the Accountants, and the Engineers; and it has not been proved that any of these professions are prejudiced by their being represented by more than one Society; and, again, every other Art has numerous Societies, to the great benefit of the Art concerned. This being so, our contention is that the cause of Registration which the R.I.B.A. Defence League and a large majority of architects desire, will not be furthered by the proposals of the Council which must, therefore, be endorsed or rejected on their independent merits. The Society of Architects has never opposed a measure

of Registration, the principle of which was the setting up of a Federal Board to arrange and regulate the necessary tests, and the R.I.B.A. Defence League would cordially support this. We therefore think that the principle in question at this election is whether the amalgamation of the Institute and the Society is desirable on its own merits, and we hold it is undesirable for the following reasons: (1) the Institute now comprises a large body of men, the great majority of whom have passed the qualifying test of the Associateship examination; (2) the creation of the Licentiate class was somewhat unwillingly agreed to by the Associates on the definite condition that they should not have voting power. The proposal now made gives them full voting powers, exactly the same as our Fellows and Associates; (3) Though the Associate class remains at present untouched, it is proposed that members of the Society shall be enabled to qualify for the Associateship by passing a "*Special Examination*," which may be made easier than that of the Associate examination, so that the Associate class is indirectly threatened. In addition, the enlarged Licentiate class who are to be given the vote would, by their numbers, be able to neutralise the present voting power of the Associates, and with 170 new Fellows from the Society, the Associates who have passed the qualifying examination could be out-voted; (4) it is utterly unfair that the absorbed Society, numbering 1,634, should be give equal representation on the Registration Committee, with the 5,483 members of the Institute; (5) though the Society numbers 1,634 members, our Council tells us that only "some 150 in all" have passed any qualifying examination. For the foregoing reasons we appeal to the electorate to vote *en bloc* for the candidates mentioned below, and by so doing to reject the absorption policy. If returned to office, candidates whose names are appended would promote changes in the Charter and By-laws, making a poll when demanded obligatory, and making the decision so obtained binding on the Institute. Only by so doing can an end be put to party division, and the will of the majority made to determine the policy of the Institute without reference to personal considerations. The opposition to the Council's proposals is in no spirit of hostility to the Society of Architects, but because we believe they endanger the work and traditions of many years.—A. W. S. Cross, Chairman, R.I.B.A. Defence League; Sydney Perks, Hon. Sec., R.I.B.A. Defence League.

We omit the first appendix because the full correspondence between Mr. A. W. S. Cross and the President of the R.I.B.A. is given in our correspondence pages and also the second appendix dealing with the legal report of the Parliamentary Agents approached in April, 1921, has been already published in the professional Press and has again been circulated to all members of the R.I.B.A. a few days ago.

The following candidates are pledged to oppose any alteration in our constitution in order to admit members except by the present system of compulsory examination until after the passing of a Registration Bill; which, if elected, they would again promote, as was done by the Council of 1922-23. The Institute, of course, would be supreme:—

President, Cross, Alfred William Stephens, M.A., Cantab; Vice-Presidents, Flockton, Charles Burrows (Sheffield), Perks,



R.A. 1924. PREMIATED COMPETITIVE DESIGN FOR HAMPSTEAD FLATS. C. A. FAREY, C. E. SIMMONS and A. T. EDWARDS, Architects

Sydney, F.S.A., Searles-Wood, Herbert Duncan. Members of Council—Chetwood, Henry John; Clarke, Max; Collard, Allan Ovenden; Curtis, W. T.; Fraser, Percival Maurice; Gill, Charles Lovett (Messrs. Richardson & Gill); Gunton, J.; Hunt, William George; Joseph, Delissa; Moore, Albert Walter; Scott, William Gillbee; Scott-Moncrieff, William Walter, M.C.; Solomon, Digby Lewis, B.Sc., London; Swan, James Alfred (Birmingham); Travers, Wilfrid; Wills, Herbert Winkler. Associate Members of Council.—Ashford, William Henry (Birmingham); Culliford, Leonard Arthur; Heaven, F. H. (Wales); Scott, John Douglas; Welford, Arthur; Woodward, Frank.

APPENDIX 3.—All matters of governance are in these days a question of majorities, and it is therefore essential in considering the present proposals to grasp the essential facts as to when the control of the Institute is now and/or will be in the future. At the present moment the majority of the corporate members of the Institute have entered it by examination, the figures being as follows:—

(1) Fellows elected from the Class of Associates	462
Associates	2,352
	2,814
(2) Fellows elected from the Licentiate Class	180
Fellows directly elected before 1910	305
Do. do. do. 1910-1923 inc.	11
	496
Majority of Corporate Members who have entered by examination	2,318

Even if the Franchise is extended to make the Licentiate corporate members, the control would still be in the same hands, as the figures would then stand:—

Examined Fellows and Associates as (1) above	2,814
Fellows as (2) above	496
Licentiate	1,402
	1,898
MAJORITY	906

Under the present proposals, however, this control would pass to fresh hands, as follows:—

Fellows as (2) above	496
New Fellows from Society	200
	696
Members of Society	1,137
Licentiate R.I.B.A.	1,402
	3,235
TOTAL	3,235
Examined Fellows and Associates as (1) above	2,814
	421
Majority of Members who have not passed R.I.B.A. Tests	421

It must also be remembered that the Allied Societies are not likely to accept an inferior status for their Members (the majority of whom are not Members of the R.I.B.A.) than the Society has obtained, and if "one Society only" is to mean anything, it cannot stop at the present proposals.

Correspondence.

[The Editor will not be responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

The R.I.B.A. and Registration.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—In the President's letter to the electorate of May 9 last the opinion of Mr. Edward Shortt, K.C., is quoted to the effect that if the proposed amalgamation with the Society of Architects should take place there would be "a reasonable probability with a reasonably good case on public as well as professional grounds" of obtaining Registration. I submit that this opinion should be taken *cum grano salis*. For Mr. Shortt was asked to assume two hypotheses:—

(a) That the Society of Architects would oppose Registration if administered by the R.I.B.A.

(b) That the R.I.B.A. would not consent to Registration if administered by an independent body such as a joint Board.

I contend that neither of these two hypotheses is founded on fact, and that had Mr. Shortt been asked for an opinion as to the possibility of obtaining Registration, if the two bodies interested in it suggested it independently of each other, his opinion would have been the same as that quoted by the President. If this assumption be correct, the whole of the arguments advanced by the supporters of Unification fall to the ground. And, further, if we believe that the Society of Architects would approve a scheme of Registration that was not based upon antecedent Unification, shall we not be correct in saying that, practically, the Council of the R.I.B.A. is allowing itself to be coerced by the Society for an ulterior object which is other than that of Registration?—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

ALFRED W. S. CROSS.

45 and 46 New Bond Street, W.
May 13, 1924.

Modern Swedish Architecture.

An Exhibition of "Modern Swedish Architecture" arranged by the Architectural Association, at 9, Conduit Street, was opened on Monday last by the Swedish Minister, His Excellency Baron Palmstierna. The Exhibition consists of drawings and photographs of buildings by twenty of Sweden's leading architects. There are also some fine models, including one of the new Town Hall of Stockholm, which was specially made by the Town Council of Stockholm for this exhibition.

At the opening ceremony Baron Palmstierna announced that the Swedish Royal Academy wished to present a Diploma to Sir Aston Webb. As Sir Aston Webb was prevented from attending owing to the accident which he recently sustained, the Diploma was accepted on his behalf by his son, Mr. Maurice E. Webb. Amongst those present were: The President of the Architectural Association, Mr. E. Stanley Hall; the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. J. A. Gotch; Mr. Alister G. MacDonald, Consul H. Eriksson, Sir Gregory Foster, Sir Edward and Lady Boyle, Lord Bury, Sir William and Lady Joynson-Hicks, Sir Newton and Lady Moore, Sir Charles and Lady Walston, The Hon. Mrs. Fitzroy Stanhope, Sir Lawrence and Lady Weaver, Dr. and Mrs. Hagberg Wright, Sir Clement and Lady Kinloch-Cooke, the Rt. Hon. Sir Maurice de Bunsen, Admiral Mark Kerr, Sir Henry and Lady Penson, Mr. Arthur H. Davis, Prof. A. E. Richardson.



No. 29 BRYANSTON SQUARE. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.

R.I.B.A. Correspondence.

We have received from the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. the following copies of the correspondence which recently passed between the Council of the R.I.B.A. and the Chairman of the Defence League on the subject of Registration. We place the same before our readers without any comments of our own:—

R.I.B.A.,
March 17, 1924.

DEAR MR. CROSS,—We have to-day, after many months of negotiations, reached an agreement with the Council of the Society of Architects on a scheme of amalgamation which both Councils wholeheartedly believe will be of great benefit to the profession. This agreement will in due course be submitted to the General Body for consideration. We should like to have on the next R.I.B.A. Council the co-operation of representatives of all shades of opinion within the R.I.B.A., working together to make it and other necessary changes in our Charter and Bye-Laws a success.

The R.I.B.A. Council have to-day unanimously asked me to write to you to suggest a meeting between the representatives of the "Defence League" and the present Council at which we can lay before you our proposals and also our suggestions for meeting the points you have raised in your letter of January 30, 1924. We are aware, of course, that there are differences between us, but our present proposals for the amalgamation with the Society of Architects meet in so many ways the objections which your League raised to the original scheme of Unification, and the points raised in your letter deal with several matters upon which it should not be impossible to obtain a considerable measure of agreement. We therefore believe the time is opportune for a serious effort to be made by meeting and discussing the points at difference between us to eliminate from the next Council election the unfortunate happenings of the last two. It is at any rate due to the profession that we should all try to work together harmoniously again.

In view of the approaching Council election the suggested meeting ought to take place shortly, and I suggest Thursday, March 27, at 2.30 p.m.—Faithfully yours,

A. W. S. Cross, Esq.

J. A. GOTCH,
President R.I.B.A.

45 and 46 New Bond Street, W.1.
March 20, 1924.

J. A. Gotch, Esq.,
President R.I.B.A.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,—Thank you for your letter of the 17th instant. A Committee Meeting of the R.I.B.A. Defence League will be called without delay with the view of appointing representatives to meet the Council, if possible, at the time and on the date you suggest.—Yours faithfully,

ALFRED W. S. CROSS.

R.I.B.A.,
March 21, 1924.

MY DEAR CROSS,—The President has shown me your letter of the 20th instant. We are asking the President, the four Vice-Presidents, and the Hon. Secretary to be in attendance here at 2.30 p.m., on Thursday, March 27.

I do not think the exact number of representatives matters very much and, broadly speaking, I am sure they will welcome as many of your representatives as you care to appoint, so long as we keep within the limits that enable a useful discussion to take place.—Yours sincerely,

IAN MACALISTER,
Secretary.

A. W. S. Cross, Esq.

R.I.B.A.,
April 2, 1924.

DEAR MR. CROSS,—We have considered the suggestion of the Defence League at our recent meeting, that the Council's proposals shall be put to a referendum.

We, of course, agree that this is the proper thing to do, and we intend to put our proposals before the electorate at the forthcoming Council Election, which is the only form of referendum available under the present constitution of the R.I.B.A., and leave it to the members to decide.

The Charter and Bye-Laws Committee will further recommend the Council to agree that if their policy is rejected and another Council elected, the members of the present Council will refrain from taking any action that would embarrass a new Council holding radically different views from proceeding

with an alternative policy. They trust the Defence League will be prepared to give a similar assurance.—Yours faithfully,

J. A. GOTCH,

A. W. S. Cross, Esq.

President R.I.B.A.

45 and 46 New Bond Street, W.,

April 4, 1924.

J. A. Gotch, Esq.,
President R.I.B.A.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,—Thank you for your letter of the 2nd instant. I regret to learn that the suggestion to ascertain the opinion of the whole of the members of the R.I.B.A. on the Council's proposals by a referendum is not acceptable to you and your colleagues. As I explained at our recent meeting,

We consider a referendum will enable the points at issue between us to be fairly placed before the electorate, and should the referendum result in the approval of the Council's proposal the League as such would not oppose such proposal, provided, however, that should the result be adverse to the proposal, then the present Council and such of its members as may be re-elected to the new Council will bind themselves to abandon the proposal, and not to substitute other proposals of a similar character.

An early decision will oblige.—Yours faithfully,

ALFRED W. S. CROSS,

Chairman, R.I.B.A. Defence League.

J. A. Gotch, Esq.,
President R.I.B.A.



No. 29 BRYANSTON SQUARE. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.

the official attitude of the Defence League with respect to the matter would have been settled by a vote taken at a meeting of its full Committee, which meeting as a matter of fact was to have been held yesterday.—Yours faithfully,

A. W. S. CROSS.

46 New Bond Street, W.I.,

April 12, 1924.

DEAR MR. GOTCH,—Your letter of the 2nd instant was placed before the Committee of the R.I.B.A. Defence League at their meeting on the 8th instant, and I am asked to inform you that the Committee was much surprised to hear that the Council of the R.I.B.A. refuses to settle the matter of the absorption of the Society of Architects by means of a referendum for ascertaining the opinion of all the members of the Institute, as suggested by the Defence League at the conference with you on the 31st ultimo.

We know of no clause in our Charters or Bye-Laws to prevent the Council consulting the members upon any subject.

This being the case, the Defence League can only offer one of two alternatives:—

1. Either to have a referendum before the Council elections with an agreed joint circular, and an agreed form or referendum; or

2. That the League should nominate its own list for the forthcoming election of Officers and Council, and issue an independent circular to the electorate, setting out the grounds of its opposition to the proposed absorption of the Society of Architects.

R.I.B.A.,

April 15, 1924.

DEAR MR. CROSS,—Your letter of April 12 was read to the Council yesterday. After careful consideration they decided that they could not see their way to alter the decision which they had previously taken, namely, to place the whole matter before the General Body at the forthcoming election and to abide by the decision. As the interests of the Licentiates, who at present have no vote, are affected by the Council's proposals, it was also decided to consult them on the scheme.

The Council deeply regret that the "Defence League" have not seen their way to accept the Council's proposals which have been put forward as a sincere attempt to find a middle course between the views of those who are in favour of a large measure of unification such as was discussed in 1922 and those who are opposed to any addition to the membership of the R.I.B.A.

Believing as they do that their proposals constitute the irreducible minimum of the concessions that must be accepted if any serious progress is to be made in the promotion of a Registration Bill, they regret that the "Defence League" have found it necessary to take up a position which the Council believe to be contrary to the wishes of the profession as a whole.

In view of the irreconcilable attitude definitely taken up by certain members of the "Defence League" Committee at the recent conference, the Council feel that they have no option but to place the whole matter before the members.—Yours faithfully,

J. ALFRED GOTCH,

President R.I.B.A.

A. W. S. Cross, Esq.



No. 29 BRYANSTON SQUARE, LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.

NOTE.—Below we give a copy of a circular letter sent on May 9 by the President of the R.I.B.A. to all the members of the R.I.B.A.

THE R.I.B.A. AND REGISTRATION.

May 9, 1924.

DEAR SIR,—You have probably seen a circular issued by the "Defence League" in which the Council are asked to put the following question to the Rt. Hon. Edward Shortt, K.C. :—

"If the amalgamation takes place do you see any possible chance of architects obtaining Registration?"

At my instructions this question has been put to Mr. Shortt, and I think his answer should be sufficient to convince any doubtful minds of the necessity for the amalgamation with the Society of Architects which the Council are proposing.

Mr. Shortt's answer is as follows :—

"I am asked whether, in my opinion, if the amalgamation takes place there is any possible chance of architects obtaining Registration. I am of opinion that there is more than a possible chance, there is a reasonable probability, with a reasonably good case on public as well as professional grounds. My opinion of course assumes that the proposed amalgamation will be carried out, without which the difficulties would be very much greater."—Yours faithfully,

J. ALFRED GOTCH,
President R.I.B.A.

Other R.I.B.A. Correspondence.

SINGAPORE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS,
62 Robinson Road,
Singapore.

To the Secretary of the R.I.B.A.,
9 Conduit Street, W.1.
March 17, 1924.

DEAR SIR,—I am instructed by my Council to acknowledge receipt of your circular of the Meeting of the Allied Societies'

Conference and to express the sympathy of this Society with the Registration policy of the Royal Institute.—Yours faithfully,
(Signed) OSCAR WILSON,

Hon. Secretary.

THE ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

To the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. January 22, 1924.

DEAR SIR,—Referring to your letter of December 20, please convey to the Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference the pleasure with which my Council has received the intimation of the settlement of the details and terms for absorbing the Society of Architects. This is, indeed, a great step forward after so many years of negotiation. It now only remains for the Royal Institute of British Architects to take the whole step, taking in everyone who has been practising architecture say, for three years previous to the date that you obtain the full Registration Act. We in this country did not like the idea of taking everybody in, but found it was the only way to get Registration and recognition by the Parliament of the Province, and have already found, in the course of three years, that the process of elimination of the undesirables has commenced and is showing a much more rapid clean-out than we anticipated. You will doubtless find the same results in England when you feel bold enough to take this step.—Yours truly,

S. M. EVELEIGH,
President, Architectural Institute of British Columbia.

REGINA AND SASKATOON, CANADA.

To the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. Regina.
March 28, 1924.
RE STATUTORY REGISTRATION.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th instant in reference to Statutory Registration of Architects and as Registration in this Province has been very beneficial

to the profession and the public generally, I have much pleasure in replying. Previous to 1911, due partially to this being a new country and also to the universal lack of appreciation of our profession, the public had a very vague idea of the functions of an architect and this condition was aggravated by the use of the title "Architect" by many persons who had no architectural training or qualifications, particularly contractors. To attempt to remedy this state of affairs a few of us met together and prepared a draft bill and secured signatures of all practising architects to a petition which was presented to the legislature and became law in 1911. There was no objection whatever taken to the Bill. The government bringing it in as a government measure. We were able to persuade them to do this by pointing out that such an act would be a protection to the public and that we were entitled to the same legislative protection accorded other professions. Our Act makes it illegal for anyone to practise as an architect unless he is a member of the Architects' Association, and to obtain membership it is necessary for applicants to submit to qualifying examinations conducted by the University of Saskatchewan or to submit evidence that the applicant is a member of an association of equal standing. At first our Act only prohibited the use of the title "Architect," but this did not accomplish very much and we had this amended to prohibit any person, not being registered, to supply for hire, gain, or hope of reward, plans, blue prints or specifications for use in the erection of buildings or to advertise, use or display any sign, card or other device representing that such person is entitled to practise as an architect.

The result has been that the status of our profession has been raised and it is gaining the recognition and position it justly deserves. I might enumerate a few of the advantages that occur to me. Incompetent and undesirable members, who, of necessity, had to be admitted at first, have, to a large extent, been eliminated, and all new members since 1911 must have had qualifications as stated above. The standard of architecture has, as a result, been greatly improved. The fact that there is only one association in the province and all architects having to be a member of this, ensures concerted action in all matters pertaining to architecture. Power of expulsion for unprofessional conduct invested in the Council ensures that the code of ethics be observed. Membership in our association facilitates admission to practise architecture in other provinces of Canada and in the United States where they have registration. Unsatisfactory conditions in regard to architectural competitions have been greatly improved by the efforts and regulations of the association. Our schedule of fees has been incorporated in the Act which enables architects to collect fees in accordance with this schedule when there is no agreement setting out the fees to be charged. Registered architects can recover these fees by law, but a person not registered cannot recover remuneration by law for architectural services. Generally speaking, all architects charge the full fee as prescribed. In reference to your last paragraph it seems to be essential that, if possible, all architects should be unanimous in applying for any Act for registration. Any government would hesitate to grant registration if there was a minority opposed to such action. We have an instance of this in Canada. The majority of the provinces now have regulation under a registration Act, but in Ontario owing to opposition by a small minority it has been impossible to obtain registration to date, although repeated efforts have been made. I believe, however, that the architects there have now come to realise the advantage to be gained and are unanimous in another effort to obtain registration.

Wishing you every success in your efforts.—Very truly yours,

(Signed) W. G. VAN EGMOND,

Architect.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
ALBANY.

April 15, 1924.

To the Secretary of the R.I.B.A.,

9 Conduit Street, Regent Street, W.1.

STATUTORY REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of March 15, 1924, is hereby acknowledged and it affords me great pleasure to respond to your inquiries.

Education is the foundation and complete structure of a registration statute designed to serve public safety, health, welfare and such values as there may be in the reflection of the highest spiritual concepts of the civilization of a particular period. The registration laws of the State of New York simply demand certain standards of education for those who seek to act in responsible capacity where life, health and liberty are involved. This has been the fundamental policy of the State of New York beginning in Colonial times and developing with

great rapidity during the last fifty years. Our highest Court has held that "Education is a function of the State." On this sound premise a State Board of Regents was established by the makers of our Constitution and the Legislature of the State from time to time, places by statute certain authority with the Regents that that arm of the government may require minimum qualifications for those who have to do with the occupations in life most likely to involve the protection of the citizens in our State. The Regents in pursuance of their obligation, select examining Boards to act for them as experts to test the qualifications of those seeking to practise professions. The appointments to membership in these Boards have no political significance and carry no material financial return for service beyond necessary reimbursement for incurred expense. Thus we have in the State of New York not only the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary, but also a department of government devoted to education. The Regents of the State of New York have always been men of great distinction in the service of education and are selected by the Legislature because of their contribution to society in this respect. I mention the system in the State of New York because it is the most developed of any in the States of the Union. Other States have laws more or less conforming to the basic principles of those of the State of New York. It seems incredible that any person or legislative body should question the advisability of requiring standards of education for those who would practise Law, Medicine, Architecture or Engineering. The claim that a department of safety stands as a bar to incompetent practice falls, if there is no standard of education established for administrators of the law in such departments. The registration law extends such standards as would be reasonably required for such public servants to all who have to deal with them. Departments having control of building operations are properly required to check the stresses in a proposed building. The liability of such departments practically ends (except that fault in checking is proven) when they approve the structural design. Inspection properly belongs to the author of design declared competent by the government whether or not he is an employee of the State. Failure in building due to incompetent supervision should result in cancellation of right to supervise just as in the case in Admiralty law when the master loses his ship. Architecture being a much more exact science than Law or Medicine can much more easily be established in law. We deal with facts rather than speculation. I have been told by architects from your wonderful country that the magnitude of buildings does not call for the intense training in structural design that is a necessity here. This may be true to-day, but it will not long remain the condition. Your schools of architecture certainly adopt standards which show anticipation.

In the State of New York the Legislature has fixed the following qualifications as essential to the practice of architecture: Preliminary education prior to the commencement of technical education includes what we call a High School course. This in general terms includes a knowledge of mathematics extending through plane geometry; history of the United States and England, together with an outline of earlier history; foreign language for about two years, English and some Latin. In addition the student usually qualifies in some minor subjects. Subsequent to graduation from High School the student is required to acquire such knowledge of mathematics, history and language as is usually taught in a college granting the degree of B.A. While engaged in an architect's office or in his technical course at a university, he is permitted to qualify in the two year's college course at a college or private school. The technical course is graduation from an approved School of Architecture such as you have in your University of Liverpool. The student who obtains his technical training in an architect's office has to serve five years and at the end of that period pass examinations in architecture: the question papers are prepared by the examining Board. The graduate from the university must serve three years in the office of an architect subsequent to graduation and then seek qualification by verbal test by the Board. The Regents pass on the work of the Board and in case of appeal decide the justice of the Board's action. The importance of preliminary education has deeply impressed us; it seems to be the key to the problem. It is essential for the understanding of the problems presented in the university course or in the office of the architect. It gives power of expression and understanding of forms of equations which cannot be overestimated in value as affecting the whole career of the architect. The technical training, whether gained in the School of Architecture or the office, is modified just to the extent that the student has progressed in his preliminary education. I have dwelt on the essential features of a registration law and now reach the problem involved in existing conditions in the profession. The original act always makes provision for the

person who was in practice prior to the adoption of the statute. First it provides that such persons shall be recorded (not registered), but does not permit such persons to call themselves registered architects unless they are subsequently registered under the provisions of the law.

The law always establishes a period, generally one year, during which the educational provisions for the Act are *waived* and the competency of the applicant is passed on as a result of evidence submitted by him as to his qualifications from a technical point of view. If he is granted registration his certificate is the same as that issued to anybody. If he does not qualify he still retains the right to call himself an architect by virtue of his use of the title prior to the date of the passage of the statute. This latter class is rapidly disappearing in the United States since those who build do not care to engage the services of persons who fail to obtain registration. Thus we have two classes at the termination of the *waiver* period: Those who practise by right of previous practise and those who have a certificate of competency from the State. At the end of the waiver period every person seeking to enter the practice of architecture has to have had the preliminary and technical education required by law with subsequent training as a condition precedent to entering such practice and must establish by proof submitted to the Board that he has so qualified. The law in the final analysis establishes certain minimum requirements for those who would practise and has no relation whatever to any of the societies of architects. Under the "Waiver" provision, members of the Royal Institute of British Architects or other society where proof of competency is essential to admission, would naturally be registered by the Board. The great class of unaffiliated architects must present complete proof to the Board (generally by personal appearance) at some meeting place in the vicinity of his residence or place of business. Thus the New York Board may meet in several large cities of the State until this class of cases is disposed of. One of the reactions of registration laws is that the registered architect seeks to become a member of some organisation of his fellows in the profession; of course, the societies do not admit him unless they wish to. Every architect files with the State Department of Education a notice each year that he is still in business and a complete list is issued by the State in January of each year. This list informs the societies of all engaged in the profession and they find in it a large potential membership. No society should seek to receive particular recognition through the statute as education is the only fundamental thing by which a test can be made. It should always be in mind that the law is for the benefit of the profession in the future and not designed to overcome at once a lamentable condition. The statute provides for punishment for violation, for incompetent service resulting in disaster and for dishonesty in practice. The immediate effect of a registration law is that the hordes from the cellars and by-ways pouring into our occupation are effectually *stopped*. The polluted stream soon begins to clear by the influx of well trained men and places the profession on a high plane in public estimation. We have registration laws for architects in twenty-three states; one at least twenty years on the statute books. *Not one has ever been repealed.* I hope that I have given you a sketch of our laws that may be of service to you and shall gladly answer any questions. I seek to be of service because of my many years' service with the State of New York and as Chairman of the American Institute Committee. I shall be glad for the reason of my appreciation of the merits of the people of the Land which was the place where my beloved father first saw the light of this life.—Cordially yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM P. BANNISTER.

339, Lexington Avenue,
New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

45 New Bond Street, W.1.

May 8, 1924.

SIR,—Since my return from India a few weeks ago, I find that the proposals of the present Council with regard to Registration are very similar to those which I advocated as early as 1911.

As I believe that the possibility of obtaining Registration under the Institute Scheme is not so remote as formerly, I feel my position on The Defence League is therefore inconsistent, and have accordingly sent in my resignation to that body, and withdrawn my name from the Voting List.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE HUBBARD.

The Editor, "The Architect."

Fortune Theatre.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—As Solicitor for the Building Owner of the above theatre I am instructed to write and correct an erroneous im-

pression conveyed in your beautifully illustrated account of it upon its completion which appeared in your last issue. The printed statement that Mr. Schaufelberg was the Architect necessitates the important qualification that his appointment to that position was terminated by my client some months ago.—Yours faithfully,

May 7, 1924.

W. P. ARMSTRONG.

Exhibition of Architecture, Wembley.

The Exhibition of Architecture now being arranged by the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Architecture Club will be held in the short period Exhibition Galleries of the Palace of Art, British Empire Exhibition, Wembley, from May 26 to July 5, 1924.

The Exhibition will be opened by Lord Crawford at 3 p.m. on Monday, May 26.

There will be a Press View on Saturday, May 24, at 3 p.m.

The Exhibition will consist of photographs and models of the recent work of living architects in Great Britain and Ireland, India and the Dominions.

Architecture and the Illustrated Press.

We are glad to notice that "The Graphic," one of our best weekly illustrated periodicals, has devoted a full page in its issue dated May 3 to illustrating the architectural works exhibited at the Royal Academy, Burlington House. The work of two of our younger men has been given prominence—the new church at Ampleforth Abbey, Yorks, by G. Gilbert Scott, R.A., and the courtyard or garden court of the enlarged Bank of England, by Herbert Baker, A.R.A. The drawings which illustrate these buildings are considered by a great many professional men as two of the best in the architectural exhibition; they are by C. A. Farey and P. D. Hepworth, both exceptionally clever architectural draughtsmen and colourists.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MAY 16, 1874.

ARCHITECTURE AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

Of the drawings exhibited by Mr. Norman Shaw, A.R.A., two show designs for small country houses of half-timber and tile-hung construction, both eminently characteristic and original, and the third is a bird's-eye view of a large mansion now being erected at the corner of the Kensington Road and Princes Gate. 1,120 shows the garden front of "Hopedene," Surrey, wherein Mr. Shaw's skill in picturesque design and grouping of parts is especially noticeable; the great projecting bay, with its bold moulded woodwork and overhanging storeys, is happy in effect, as also are the great tile-hung dormers. We cannot help thinking, however, that there is overmuch striving after quaintness and picturesqueness in both this and the design for "Boldre Grange," Hants (1,121); the little stuck-on oriel, seemingly supported on a small wooden bracket in the former, and the larger oriel in the latter building are to our mind positively ugly. Mr. Shaw has certainly set a fashion in design which is being adopted by numerous other architects who seem not equally well skilled in handling this kind of work, and are somewhat inclined to borrow largely from him. Half-timber work and tile-hanging have their charms, but we question whether tiny lead lights, however harmonious they may be supposed to be with this kind of design, are altogether suitable where pleasant views and park scenery lie beyond. In the bird's-eye view of "Lowther Lodge" (1,137), we have another of Mr. Shaw's so-called Queen Anne designs. It may be that the *genius loci* of Kensington prompted Mr. Shaw to revive the style of Queen Anne, and to give to the world a building which, with all its merit, has many anachronisms. Some parts, such as the plaster decoration, and the scroll ornaments in the pediments of the slightly projecting bays and flanking wings, are coarse and heavy. In Mr. Shaw's hands, any design is sure to show careful treatment and study, and this is no exception, but the tall, ill-proportioned and lanky windows, the pedimented niche stuck on to the huge chimney in the eastern wing, and the curved pediment of the western wing are, with all the artist's cleverness, not only inartistic but ugly. The chimneys are bold and well designed, and the entrance, with the overhanging balcony, picturesque, but here, again, the striving after quaintness brings a want of breadth which we cannot but regret. It is to be hoped the craze now so prevalent for a style of art false in so much of its detail and construction will die out ere it becomes imitated by a crowd of less talented designers, in whose hands, what, under Mr. Shaw's skilful pencil, is at least picturesque and quaint, will become simply weak and meretricious.

An offer to transfer Rainham School has been made to the Kent Education Committee who are recommended to acquire a suitable site for a new central school.

Housing.

The Epsom Rural District Council have passed the following plans: A house in Links Road, six cottages in Ottways Avenue, a house on the Warren Estate, and another house on the Epsom Road, Ashtead.

The Barnsley Corporation has approved of the following plans: A house in Allendale Road, two houses in Mount Vernon Road; a bungalow and five houses in Clarendon Street, a house in Cavendish Road, and two houses in Woodstock Road.

The Foleshill Rural District Council have passed the plans for 32 houses to be erected at Bedworth.

Two houses are to be built in Frederick Street, two in Coniston Road, four houses in Layton Avenue, two in Leamington Road, eight in Ord Avenue, twelve bungalows in Abbey Road, six houses in Rectory Road, twenty-three houses in Canterbury Avenue, six in Salisbury Road, seven in Rothsay Road, four in Warley Road, fifteen off Poulton New Road, and six houses in Lomond Avenue. All the plans for these houses have been submitted to and passed by the Blackpool Corporation.

The Caterham Urban District Council approved of the plans for two pairs of villas in Birch Avenue, another villa in Crescent Road, and another in Croydon Road.

The Town Council of Croydon has passed the plans for sixteen houses in Addiscombe Court Road, twenty-one houses in Boston Road, and Marden Crescent. Messrs. Young and Macintosh, architects, submitted a plan for a house in Woodbury Close. Seventeen further houses are to be erected in Eridge Road; seventy houses are to be built in Fairlands Avenue and twenty-eight houses in Bensham Manor Road; twelve houses are also allotted to Birchanger Road and ten in Howard Road, South Norwood; seventy-one houses are to be erected in Lucerne, Berne, Geneva, and Zermatt Roads. Six houses in Cromdene Road and nine houses in Lloyd's Road also form part of a very big programme submitted to the Council.

The plans for seven houses in Chandos Avenue, six houses in Colney Hatch Lane and three in Oakleigh Park North were passed recently by the Friern Barnet Urban District Council.

Twelve houses are to be built in Bellingham Road, and 11 flats over shops in Randlesdown Road, Lewisham.

The Bolton Town Council has passed the plans for four houses in Chorley Old Road, two houses in Rydal Road, six houses in Cloverdale Square, 14 houses in Dudley Avenue, and 14 in Abbotsford Road, 12 houses in Ainslie Road, six in Green Lane. A layout plan for the Tonge Park Estate was also passed.

The Burnley Town Council passed the plans for six houses in Mosley Road, four houses in Queen's Road.

The Ministry of Health has granted the Conisborough Urban District Council permission to borrow £40,000 for granting a subsidy of £100 per house in respect to 400 houses which the Conisborough Housing Association propose to erect for the Colliery Company. A further permission was given to borrow £150,000 which is to be loaned to the company for the purpose of paying the expenses in connection with the cost of erecting these houses.

The Luton Corporation has passed the plans for the following houses: one in Mansfield Road, another in Arundel Road, two houses in Alexandra Avenue, 12 houses on Richmond Hill, four houses in Biscot Road, five houses in Turner's Road, and four houses in Lincoln Road, and another four in Carlton Crescent.

At Beeston the Urban District Council approved of the plans for the erection of fifteen houses.

The Urban District Council of Bexley has approved of the following plans for bungalows: one in Bean Road, Bexley Heath; two in Upton Road, Bexley; another in Park View Road, Welling.

The Manchester Corporation Buildings Committee passed the plans for 12 houses in Beresford Road, Rusholme.

Building in Margate is progressing apace. The Town Council passed the plans for six houses in Ramsgate Road, four in Nash Court Road, four in Wellesley Road, four in Rancorn Road, two in Eaton Road, and a like number in Wellis Gardens. Under a town-planning scheme a further 15 are to be erected in Ramsgate Road.



A ROW OF HALF-TIMBERED SHOPS.

Housing and Town Planning Act.

HALF-TIMBERED SHOPS AT CHALFONT ST. PETER.

We are pleased to correct a misunderstanding which may have arisen from what we said in an article under the above heading, published in our issue of March 21.

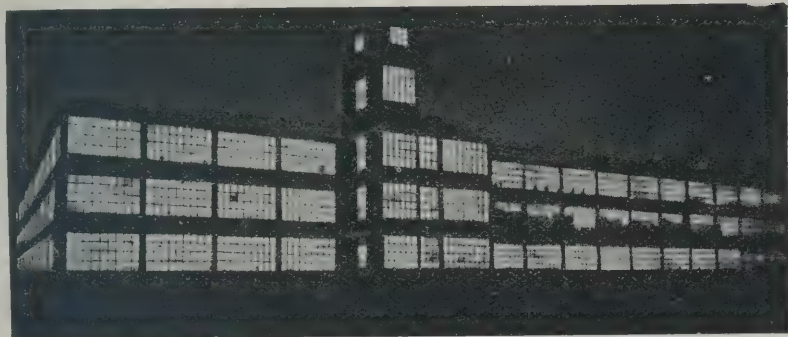
In saying that the counterpart of certain shops might be found in the shoddiest suburban districts, we never intended to imply that the shops in question were otherwise than well and soundly built, but referred to the fact that their elevations were finished with a skin of half timber work. This practice is one frequently employed by builders in many localities, and though it is quite consistent with sound workmanship and

construction behind and is frequently applied, it is at the same time an attempt to imitate the external effect of constructional half timber work employed in the past in which the timbers were part of the framework of the structure, almost invariably carried out in oak and filled in between with brickwork.

From an æsthetic and architectural standpoint, such imitations are generally condemned, but our criticism was not in any way intended to reflect on the constructional soundness of the buildings mentioned; and as we understand that exception has been taken to our comments by the builder and owners of the shops in question, who consider they may suffer financial damage thereby, we gladly withdraw any remarks which might be construed as going further than an æsthetic criticism.

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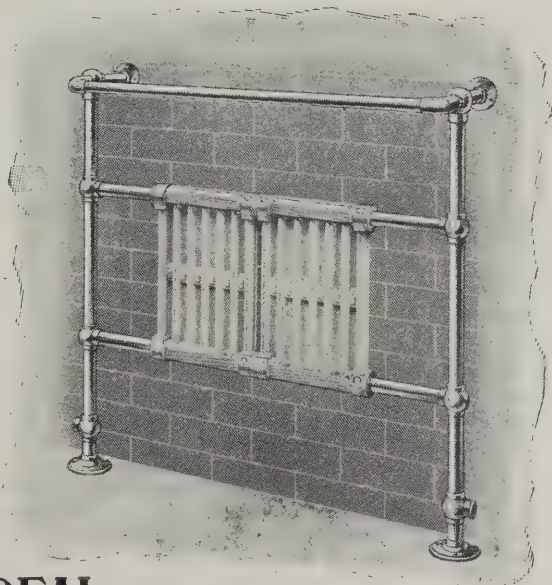
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Secrets of Ancient Craftsmen Discovered in France.

French chemists and glass-founders are on the threshold of an achievement which has long eluded research and experiment: the reconstruction of the colours of the wonderful Cathedral windows of the Middle Ages. Before the war it seemed well-nigh impossible to discover the secrets of the craftsmen who created these *chefs-d'œuvre*. By a curious irony the destruction achieved by the German guns has hastened the solution of the mystery. The fragments collected in Rheims and other Cathedral towns have singularly facilitated the studies of searchers. Two documents of recent date interestingly résumé the progress made not only in the laboratory but in the factory. M. Chesneau has communicated to the French Academy of Science the results of investigations made with the aid of specimens obtained from the windows of the Church of Saint-Rémi of Rheims. The coloured glass of this edifice, which dates from the twelfth century, occupies a high rank amongst the most beautiful products of the glass-founder's art. It is a hundred years older than the Cathedral windows which M. Chesneau has also examined. These researches reveal that the workmanship and the composition are in the two cases almost identical. The raw material used for both Church and Cathedral glass had evidently the same origin, the proportions of magnesia, potash and soda being similar. The colouring metals, on the other hand, are in striking contrast with each other. Saint-Rémi blues present a phenomenal purity; those of the Cathedral are rather violet-hued. This difference is due to the fact that while there is four times more oxyde of cobalt in the Saint-Rémi glass than in the glass of the Cathedral, the latter contains five times more oxyde of manganese than the former. Analysis has also established that the craftsmen of the period realised some very delicate and remarkable feats. The red glass of Saint-Rémi has five successive layers of cupreous red enamel, separated by strata of clear metal. As this glass was obtained by collecting the white molten metal with a blowing tube, coating it lightly with the cupreous composition and then blowing it in the ancient manner, its manufacture entailed a nicety of manipulation the critical character of which can be easily imagined. To the perfection and precision of the work is due, no doubt, the purity, brilliancy and translucency of the stained glass of Rheims.

Practical Realisations.

In the light of these laboratory discoveries practical realisations are being attempted and achieved. In a report made last year, in connection with the Budget of the French Fine Arts Department, M. Pierre Rameil drew attention to what a master glass-worker, M. Burghstal, is manufacturing in his factory in the Valley of the Bièvre, Seine-et-Oise. M. Burghstal himself prepares the designs, executes the work, and installs the glass in its place. Every element of the glass is chosen and combined by him; in the foundry and in the laboratory his personal intervention is uninterrupted. By patient, unwearying efforts he has succeeded in finding out the secrets of the ancient makers. The key of it is the non-parallelism of the two faces of the glass. These surfaces, constituted by convex and concave parts receive the light by prismatic angles. With glass actually produced no such effect is obtainable. To imitate it, recourse is had to artificial painting devices, which give no really lasting results. The methods of M. Burghstal are a modernisation of the technique applied by the chemist Chevreul and by Regnault, who was manager of the Sèvres Manufactory in 1853. The incident of a visit to the old Abbey of Fontfroide, founded by the Cistercians in the twelfth century, revealed for the first time their striking success. The Abbey belongs to a rich art amateur, M. Fayet, and is classed as an historical monument. It consists of a Church in the form of an Egyptian cross, which is declared to be one of the most beautiful in the Southern provinces, together with buildings which formerly served as cells and workshops for the monks. While M.

Pierre Rameil and some friends were admiring the supposed ancient glass of the Church window, the proprietor of the Monastery warned them that they were looking at brand-new modern products. These marvels were no creations of ancient craftsmen, but simple "fournitures" (supplies) emanating from a contemporary factory. That factory was M. Burghstal's. It is there that the most fruitful efforts are being made to-day to revive the glass glories—the "spider-web poems of light" of dead and gone centuries. Experts who have examined the windows of Fontfroide Abbey believe that M. Burghstal will yet render to his country one of the most precious services that his art and industry could furnish to modern France. They hail him, indeed, as the man whose talents will yet help to repair a large part of the atrocities perpetrated by enemy cannon in the noble Cathedrals of his native country.

W. W. O'M.

R.I.B.A.

Architects and National Housing.

The Minister of Health received a deputation from the Royal Institute of British Architects and its Allied Societies on Thursday, May 8, at 11 a.m. The deputation was introduced by the President of the R.I.B.A., Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, F.S.A. The views of the architectural profession on the subject of the national housing policy were stated by Mr. Paul Waterhouse, Mr. H. V. Lanchester, Professor S. D. Adshead, Major Harry Barnes and the Presidents of several of the Allied Societies in the provinces.

The following were invited to take part in the deputation:—

Council.—Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, F.S.A., President R.I.B.A.; Mr. Paul Waterhouse, F.S.A., Mr. John W. Simpson, Past Presidents, R.I.B.A.; Mr. Herbert T. Buckland, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, F.S.A., Mr. W. Curtis Green, A.R.A., Vice-Presidents, R.I.B.A.; Mr. Robert Atkinson; Sir John J. Burnet, A.R.A., R.S.A.; Sir Edwin Cooper; Major H. C. Corlette, O.B.E., F.S.A.; Sir Banister Fletcher; Mr. Henry M. Fletcher, Mr. Gilbert Fraser, M.C.; Mr. John Keppie, A.R.S.A.; Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A.; Mr. Thomas R. Milburn; Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, R.A.; Mr. Walter Tapper; Sir A. Brumwell Thomas; Mr. Percy E. Thomas, O.B.E.; Mr. Maurice E. Webb; Mr. H. Chalton Bradshaw; Mr. W. G. Newton, M.C.; Mr. Michael Waterhouse; Professor J. Hubert Worthington; Mr. Eric Morley; Mr. E. Stanley Hall.

Housing Committee.—Mr. Henry V. Ashley; Major Harry Barnes; Mr. Walter Cave; Mr. G. C. Lawrence, R.W.A.; Mr. Horace Cubitt; Mr. G. Leonard Elkington; Mr. W. G. Hunt; Mr. Herbert A. Welch; Mr. George H. Gray; Sir Aston Webb, K.C.V.O., C.B., P.R.A.; Mr. Wm. Harvey; Mr. Francis Jones; Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd; Mr. James Lochhead; Mr. C. B. Willcocks; Professor S. D. Adshead; Mr. W. R. Davidge; Mr. F. M. Elgood; Mr. H. V. Lanchester; Mr. Raymond Unwin.

Representatives of Allied Societies.—Mr. Edward P. Warren, F.S.A., Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association; Mr. Rupert Savage, Birmingham Architectural Association; Mr. J. Leighton Fouracre, Devon and Exeter Architectural Society; Sir William Portal, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Association of Architects; Mr. W. Alban Jones, Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society; Mr. J. Stockdale Harrison, Leicester and Leicestershire Society of Architects; Mr. E. B. Kirby, O.B.E., Liverpool Architectural Society; Mr. A. J. Hope, Manchester Society of Architects; Mr. S. F. Harris, Northamptonshire Association of Architects; Mr. E. H. Heazell, Nottingham and Derby Architectural Society; Mr. E. T. Boardman, Norfolk and Norwich Association of Architects; Mr. W. T. Jones, F.S.A., Northern Architectural Association; Mr. T. P. Marwick, Incorporation of Architects in Scotland; Mr. R. G. Wilson, Aberdeen Society of Architects; Mr. D. W. Galloway, Dundee Institute of Architects; Mr. C. G. Soutar, Dundee Institute of Architects; Mr. J. Inch Morrison, Edinburgh Architectural Association; Mr. G. A. Paterson, Glasgow Institute of Architects; Mr. Alexander Grant, Inverness Architectural Association; Mr. H. L. Paterson, Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors; Mr. Percy E. Thomas, O.B.E., South Wales Institute of Architects; Mr. W. S. Skinner, Bristol Society of Architects; Mr. G. P. Milnes, Gloucestershire Architectural Association; Mr. Stephen Wilkinson, York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society; Mr. R. M. Young, Ulster Society of Architects.



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Trade Notes.

An Industrial Film.

On Friday last we had the pleasure of attending a private exhibition of a very interesting film illustrating the production of "Celotex."

Considering that product has only been on the market a very short period of time, as time goes, it is little short of wonderful to survey the vast enterprise that must have been exerted in building up the huge plant that to-day supplies 500,000 square feet of Celotex per day. Sheets of Celotex board can be produced in any size or length. The material forms a perfect bond, with even 8 to 1 concrete. It is well known that concrete takes time to dry, and the difficulties of condensation and drip are not easily overcome. Celotex insulates the house, prevents extreme expansion and contraction in the concrete, is sound-deadening, and at the same time supplies an ideal basis for decorations in any material or paint. Celotex is waterproof and vermin proof, and is therefore applicable to exterior as well as interior purposes, the texture being in itself very pleasing, the material has been used without any additional decorative finish. From the point of view of transport and handling on the site Celotex is very light, 100 square feet weighs only 60 lb. It will be thus readily seen that the transport and labour expenses compare very favourably with other materials used for similar purposes. Should it be required to form the basis for plaster work, it has been proved to effect a saving of 25 per cent. of the plaster, and facilitates the application to a very considerable degree, thus again meeting the need for a material which will save labour and thus money.

Used in Canada and other cold climates the value of Celotex as an insulating material has shown a saving of between 25 to 30 per cent. of fuel for heating purposes. We can therefore understand that in this country where fuel is rather expensive the use of Celotex in domestic architectural work would be very attractive.

For the purposes of acoustical correction the material has been proved to possess the most regular and constant coefficient of absorption over the whole eight octave ranges. With regard to the all-important question of the day, housing, we were informed that the plant we had the pleasure of seeing on the film so graphically illustrated is quite prepared to cope with a demand for Celotex to be applied to the housing problem at the rate of 5,000 houses per month, without in any way interfering with the very extensive calls already being made on the plant and machinery. We have inspected a number of examples of Celotex panels which have been prepared for different purposes, such as interior decorative uses, where the material is sized before the application of paint, enamel or distemper. For ceilings where a coat of plaster paint is applied without any previous dressing, for external purposes where cement has been rendered and either a flat surface or rough cast effect produced. In every case the effect and practical result has been very satisfactory.

Messrs. Bivert and Firth, Cunard House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1, are the sole export and import merchants dealing with Celotex.

Waterproof Test.

At Olympia in the afternoon of April 26—the closing day of the Building Trades Exhibition—an interested crowd, which included a number of trade paper representatives, witnessed the breaking of a waterproofed cement cylinder which has been under a water pressure of 300 lb. per square inch for the whole fourteen days of the exhibition. The cylinder was formed with two parts of standard sand and one part of Portland cement to which 5 per cent. by weight of "Pudlo" Brand waterproofer had been added. The wall of the cylinder, 1 inch thick, had not been penetrated by the water, even under this enormous pressure.

Trade in Russia.

SIR,—Legislation permitting the patenting of inventions in Russia under the new regime is now in a fair way to being consummated, and the Registration of Trade Marks may, it is hoped, after reciprocal treaties have been concluded, follow subsequently.

British patentees and manufacturers are advised to be early in the field to secure priority and thus protect their rights against infringement. The possession of a patent or trade mark is not only a valuable asset to a business goodwill, but early protection is a necessary forerunner to the opening up of trade relations and the safeguarding of industrial rights therein.

We shall be pleased to furnish further particulars on application.—Yours truly,

KINGS PATENT AGENCY LIMITED.

146A Queen Victoria Street,
London, E.C.4.

Messrs. F. G. Edey & Co., Ltd., electrical engineers, of 25 Warwick Lane, London, E.C.4. are completing the electrical work in connection with the installation at the War Memorial Hospital at Beckenham, Kent (Architects, Messrs. Pite, Son & Fairweather). They have also received the contract for the electrical work at the Victoria Cottage Hospital at Woking. The electrical work for Messrs. Fuller's new premises in Regent Street (Messrs. Colcutt & Hamp, Architects) is being carried out by the same firm.

The Whitby U.D.C. at its monthly meeting passed a resolution approving a new sewerage scheme. It is proposed by the engineers, W. H. Radford & Son, of Nottingham, to divide the town into high and low level areas, the cost of the scheme is estimated at £27,000.

Boyle's latest patent "Air-Pump" ventilators have been applied to the Guardians Institution, Eastbourne. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Recent Fires.

If often occurs that we read reports in the general press that fires have been put out by means of extinguishers and sprinkler systems. Only on Monday a fire was caused by an electric spark exploding a full bottle of ether in an operating theatre. The report continues to give details of the injuries inflicted and closes with the statement that the fire was overcome by means of extinguishers, but no mention is made of the type or character of these useful patents. On Saturday last, we are informed, the sawmills adjoining Messrs. James Porter & Son, of Norwich, were burnt out, and this well-known firm attributes the preservation of their own premises to the effective working of the Titan Patent Automatic Sprinkler, manufactured and installed by Messrs. George Mills & Co., Ltd., Radcliffe, Manchester.

A Better Road for Motor Traffic.

The construction of the new Chester Road is an interesting example of modern practice applied to a main traffic route.

The section in question is a Class 1 road under the Ministry of Transport's classification and carries the great volume of direct traffic to and from Birkenhead. Under the direction of Mr. Charles Greenwood, A.M.I.C.E., Chester City Engineer, this has been relaid with a view to meeting more effectively the heavy demands of increasing weight and volume of traffic. The average width of the road is 39 feet, and over this is laid an 8 inch foundation of 6:1 concrete reinforced with a single layer of "Maxweld" fabric and surfaced with mastic granited rock asphalt 2 inches thick. The reinforcing medium used is a



straightforward mesh in high grade British drawn steel electrically welded at the intersection of the wires. This fabric is supplied by the makers, Messrs. Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., reinforced concrete engineers, of Middlesbrough and London, in rolls of varying strengths and spacings to the requirements of individual work. It is readily transported and simply unrolled into position at site. In order to meet the varying opinions of road engineers respecting the relative advantages of hard drawn steel and mild steel for reinforcing fabric, the makers of "Maxweld" are producing their patent welded mesh in both materials.

The Derbyshire Education Committee are considering the purchase of a site for the erection of the new Eckington College. The same Committee intend to spend £4,000 on the erection of school premises at Findern.

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Some Impressions of Swedish Architecture.

The exhibition of works of modern Swedish architecture at the R.I.B.A. is extremely interesting and suggestive to us because the work shown is essentially sane and free from the exaggeration which is very marked in Dutch work, from which we can learn little or nothing. Unless architecture as well as painting must pass through a futuristic phase such work should be regarded as a revolutionary anomaly rather than



INTERIOR OF A CHURCH AT STOCKHOLM.
L. I. WAHLMAN, Architect. From "The Studio."

Liverpool. Yet we can discover no crudity in Mr. Ostberg's conception; he uses no bizarre detail, but simply takes and adapts forms which suit his purpose. The series of church work by Lars Wahlman show a very successful attempt at embodying picturesque forms and grouping with dignity, while one is surprised on analysis to find how simple is the detail used in large and ambitious structures. It is perhaps fortunate for Swedish architects that the natural physical conditions of their country should force them to apply stonework in the most limited and sparing manner. Swedish architects seem to us to have studied the limitations and advantages of brick design to a greater extent than we have here. Our architects' work sometimes impresses us as resulting from a wish to use stone which they have reluctantly put aside on the ground of cost, whereas there is no suggestion of stone design in most of the buildings shown in this exhibition. It is apparent also that there is little wish or intention to use moulded work, the effects obtained being in most cases the result of a careful treatment of slight projections and a study of masses. The upper stages of towers and outstanding features show the result of an understanding of the picturesque, while the crudity of much Eastern European design is absent.

The Swedish church interiors are enormously helped by the impressive effect of their great relative height, which is well illustrated by the interior of a church at Stockholm by Ivar Tengbom, in which the buttresses are included in the body of the church and pierced to form passage aisles.

The main entrance of the Academy of Engineering and Architecture at Stockholm, by Eric Lallerstedt, gives a slight suggestion of *l'art nouveau*, but for the most part there is very little to show that Swedish architects have been influenced by the contemporary German or Dutch architecture.

In the best of the work shown there is little indication of Renaissance mannerism, but where a nearer approach has been made to classic precedents Swedish architects do not seem to be sure of their ground, and their work fails by their want of familiarity with precedents of style.

In domestic work the exhibition is poor, but almost any domestic architecture from abroad compares unfavourably with the best of our own because English architects have given more concentrated attention to this branch of their work than any other, and the public are undoubtedly keenly interested in it.

But our town buildings often suffer because they are too often designed with little regard to their surroundings, a fault which a study of town planning will possibly mitigate. We sometimes seem to have too much to spend on individual buildings while too little is available for our work as a whole.

Swedish architecture, from what we have seen, seems to be based on simpler and broader lines than those which inspire the majority of our efforts, while it does not convey an impression of weariness, but is instinct with vigour and has a direct appeal to the average man which we sometimes miss here.

the beginning of a new chapter in the history of an art. Swedish architecture—to judge by what is shown—may be described as being influenced by the Renaissance, but not absorbed by it or governed by its strict standards. Most of the work seems to be a reasonable outcome of past traditions and will please a large majority of the public who like what is picturesque and to whom the stricter classic has little appeal.

We sometimes wonder whether we are not working on wrong lines, whether the stricter phases of the Renaissance will ever be thoroughly appreciated except by a united school of architects, and, if so, if it is any use to endeavour to persuade public taste to enjoy what has little fascination to the average man. It may well be that we are losing an opportunity which we might better utilise, for buildings like the Stadshus, Stockholm, by Ragnar Östberg, would delight many who would look with indifference on the Fitzwilliam Museum or even St. George's Hall at

Our Illustrations.

SUGWORTH HALL, SHEFFIELD. E. VINCENT HARRIS, Architect.



INTERIOR OF ONE OF THE NEW ENTRANCES OF MESSRS. PETER ROBINSON'S NEW PREMISES, REGENT STREET, W. AUSTEN HALL, Architect.

Notes and Comments.

The Everlasting Housing Dilemma.

Writing on the Labour Government's proposals in the matter of Housing, Mr. Harold Cox says in the "Sunday Times" :—

The first blunder made by the Government was the Budget of 1909, which, under the pretext of taxing land values, in practice deprived the speculative builder of part of his anticipated profit, and therefore checked his operations. Worse still was the action of the Government during the war in fixing rents arbitrarily at a pre-war standard, regardless of the cost of reproducing a similar house.

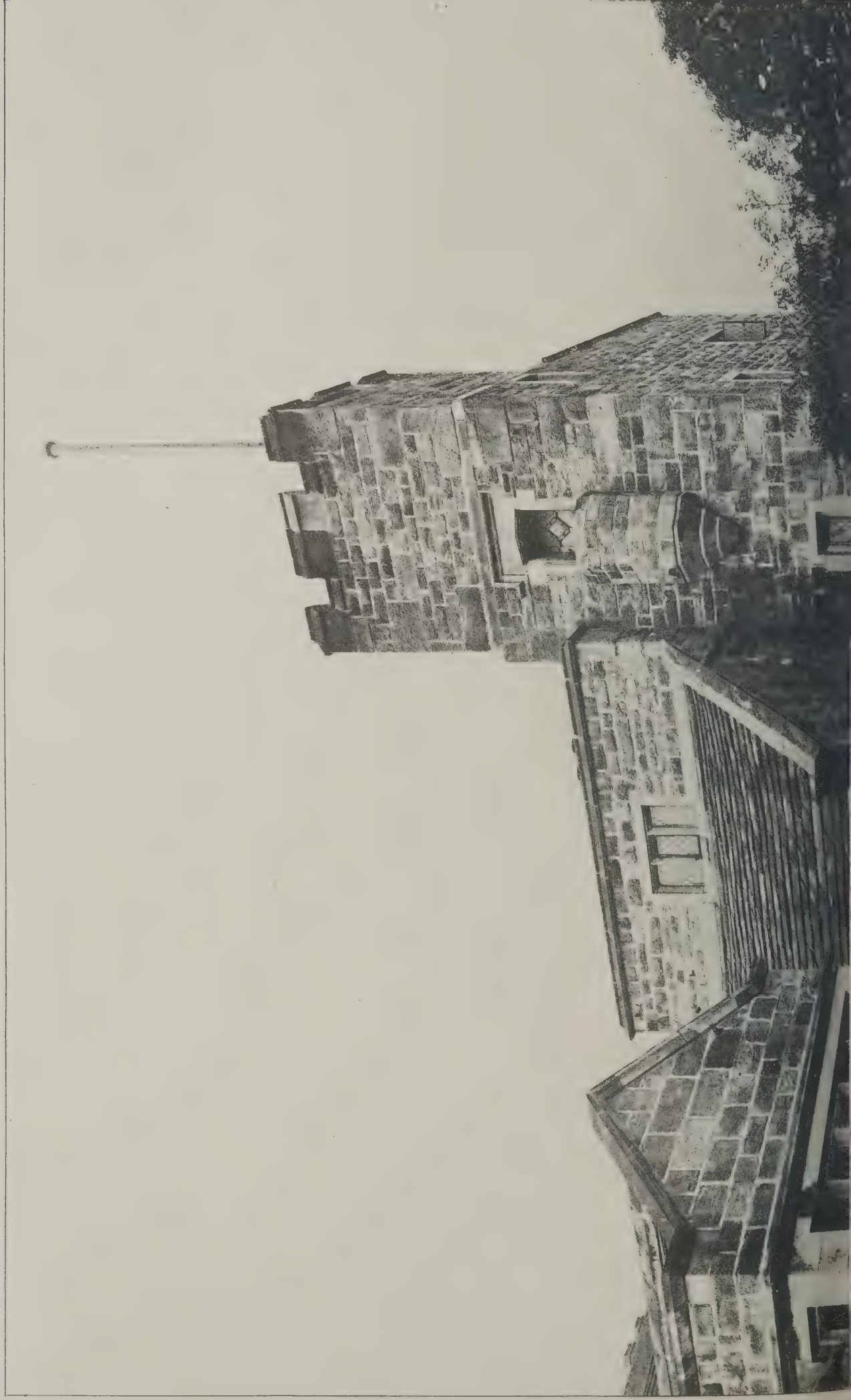
These two mistakes together, and the necessary interruption of peace activities during the war, created a post-war shortage of houses. If the Government of the day had had the courage to withdraw all controls directly the war was over and leave would-be house builders and would-be house occupiers to fight their own battles between themselves, the building trade would quickly have revived and houses would have been built—possibly in the first instance expensive houses, but gradually coming down in price as the builders found it necessary to expand their business. Instead, we had the supreme folly of the Addison scheme, which will cost the country many millions a year for half a century to come. Not only did this insane scheme impose this altogether unnecessary burden upon the taxpayers and the industries of the country, but it virtually stopped the building of houses by private enterprise, and thus added to the very evil that it was invented to solve.

That scheme was scrapped, but modifications of it continued. The latest modification was Mr. Neville Chamberlain's Act of last year. This was wisely based on the principle that the only way of solving the housing problem was to get back as quickly as possible to private enterprise. But some of the evils of the old system were—perhaps inevitably—preserved, though in a milder form. If the Conservative Party had continued in being and this Act had been allowed to operate, there is good reason to believe that rapid progress would have been made towards the production of the much-needed houses. But directly the Labour Party came into office with their promises to solve the housing problem, the evils resulting from Government interference began to be felt with renewed intensity.

There is no mystery about those evils. They arise from the simple fact that everybody—wage-earner, or employer, or merchant—thinks himself justified in putting up his prices when he is dealing with the Government. This fact is so notorious that there is absolutely no excuse for the continued failure of our politicians to recognise it. Their motive in refusing to do so is to win temporary applause for themselves by pretending that they have found a solution for one of the most urgent of our present problems. A politician can win no applause from the mass of the electorate if he confines himself to saying honestly: "This is a problem with which the Government had better not interfere." That sounds to the multitude like a confession of impotence. Politically it is far more profitable for him to come forward and fling to the mob millions of the taxpayers' money with unlimited promises of the blessings that are to follow. That

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MAIN STAIRCASE, NEW PREMISES, REGENT STREET, W.
AUSTEN HALL, Architect.

is what Mr. Wheatley proposes to do. The Government subsidy to housing under the Act of 1923 was limited to £6 per house for twenty years. Mr. Wheatley proposes to increase this to £9 for forty years, and to call upon the local authorities to find a further £4 10s.

Mr. Cox goes on to say that local authorities do not object to schemes which give them £1 to spend for every £2 advanced by the Government, but the nett result of this measure, which may mean that the taxpayer and ratepayer will have to provide £600,000,000 if it is ever carried through, will be to finally extinguish private enterprise without providing the houses required. The greater part of the immense sums of money spent will go to pay increased rates of wages for an insufficient return, and will enable manufacturers to obtain higher prices for the goods which are used in building. The Labour Party, which denounces any form of protection and dogmatically insists on repealing duties which hurt nobody, yet advocates what will be used as a direct measure of protection for a body of men who are already in a favoured position because they are naturally secured against all outside competition. The new scheme is therefore a pernicious dole, which will increase the cost of building and almost certainly diminish the supply of the houses wanted. It will unquestionably be popular with that large proportion of the electorate which believes that by hitting the moneyed classes and taking away from them funds which are chiefly used in enterprise, they can actually benefit trade and increase employment! The newest threatened extension of the franchise to flappers of 21 shows that the Government does not yet think they can sufficiently swamp wisdom and experience. We are pleased to find ourselves in absolute agreement with Mr. Cox, whose views we have always held.

A Good Proposal.

We have heard that a committee of experts is going into the question of a new absorbent wall material, which will render inaudible all discussion of the housing question or of strikes. A condition is that the new material should be decorative and cheap and that it should be suitable both for use in the cottage and in the home of the plutocrat. We understand that house agents throughout the country state that they will readily obtain higher rents for any houses

finished with new material, while it is possible that the inventor would qualify for the Nobel prize.

For war and controversy may be stated to be the comparative and superlative states of the same act, and peace is often advanced by the difficulty of finding points of controversy.

House Built Free.

We learn that at Godalming, Surrey, Sir John Jarvis laid the foundation stone of a house which is to be erected voluntarily by working men from materials supplied free by local builders.

The house will be disposed of by means of a competition in aid of the Royal Surrey County Hospital.

The same system applied on an extensive scale would solve the housing problem, for the financial basis on which it rests is not much less businesslike than that of very many schemes which are announced and gravely debated by the pundits in Parliament.

The Poll of the Licentiate Class.

In the Notes from the minutes of the Council meeting, the following statement is made:

"It was reported to the Council that in the Poll of Licentiates on the subject of the Council's proposals for the registration and consolidation of the profession some 98 per cent. of the Licentiates who had voted had expressed themselves in entire agreement with the Council's proposals."

It is interesting to note that while the Council had objections to taking a poll of those members who have a right to vote on the ground that no provision was made for it in the Charter they saw no difficulty in taking a poll of those who were only admitted to the R.I.B.A. on the pledge that they should not have voting power. Moreover, it was a fairly safe experiment, for the Licentiates have everything to gain and little to lose, while they know that the public will not see any difference between the L.R.I.B.A. and A.R.I.B.A., whereas it does see some difference between Licentiate R.I.B.A. and A.R.I.B.A.



MAIN STAIRCASE, NEW PREMISES, REGENT STREET, W.
AUSTEN HALL, Architect.

Theatre Transformed.

Being a Description of the Permanent Setting by Norman-Bel Geddes for Max Reinhardt's Spectacle, "The Miracle."

By CLAUDE BRAGDON. From the "Architectural Record" of New York.



THE PULPIT, THE TRANSEPT DOORS, AND THE ENTRANCE TO THE CLOISTERS. This photograph shows by what gradations the Auditorium is united with the Stage.

In the September, 1922, issue of "The Architectural Record" I described the "prosceniumless" theatre of Mr. Norman-Bel Geddes, and commented on its merits for

certain kinds of dramatic representations. This theatre has not been built, but Mr. Geddes was able to realise a few of its characteristic features in the transformation of the interior of the Century Theatre (New York) for the production of "The Miracle" of Max Reinhardt—himself one of the earliest advocates of the elimination of the "picture frame."

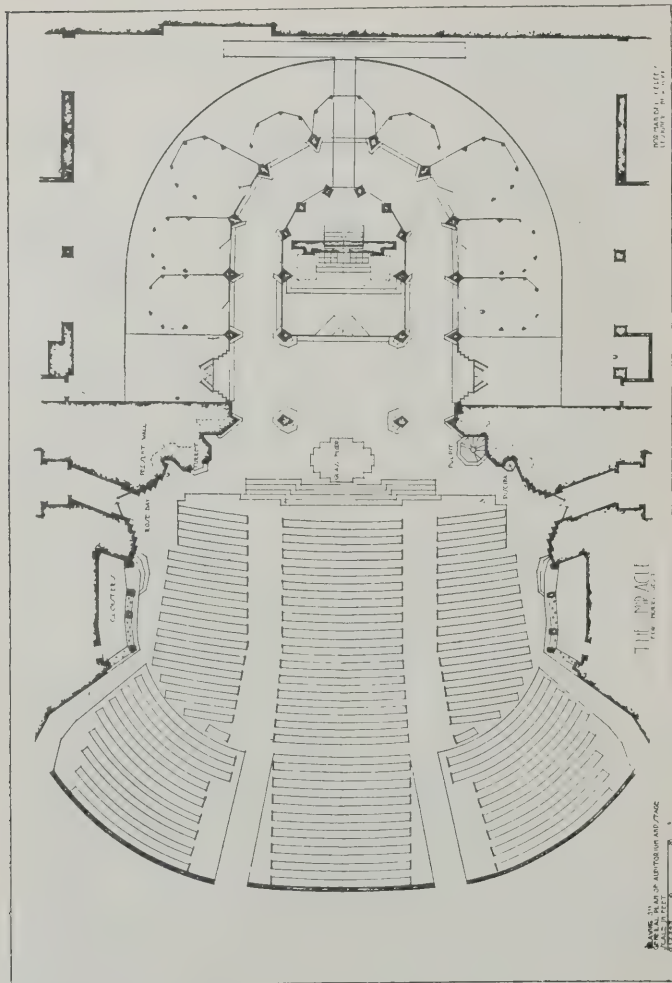
Into a discussion of "The Miracle" I need not enter, and of Mr. Geddes' part therein—he designed the scenery, costumes, properties—I shall confine myself to a single aspect: his conversion of an immense auditorium, New York, Beaux-Arty to the last degree, into the semblance of its polar opposite, a mediæval cathedral, recreating its atmosphere and recapturing something of its mood of mystical sadness.

The whole thing cost an unconscionable amount of money: more than it could possibly be worth, either from the standpoint of art, or of economics, but then "what a gesture!" as Cyrano said when he threw away his purse.

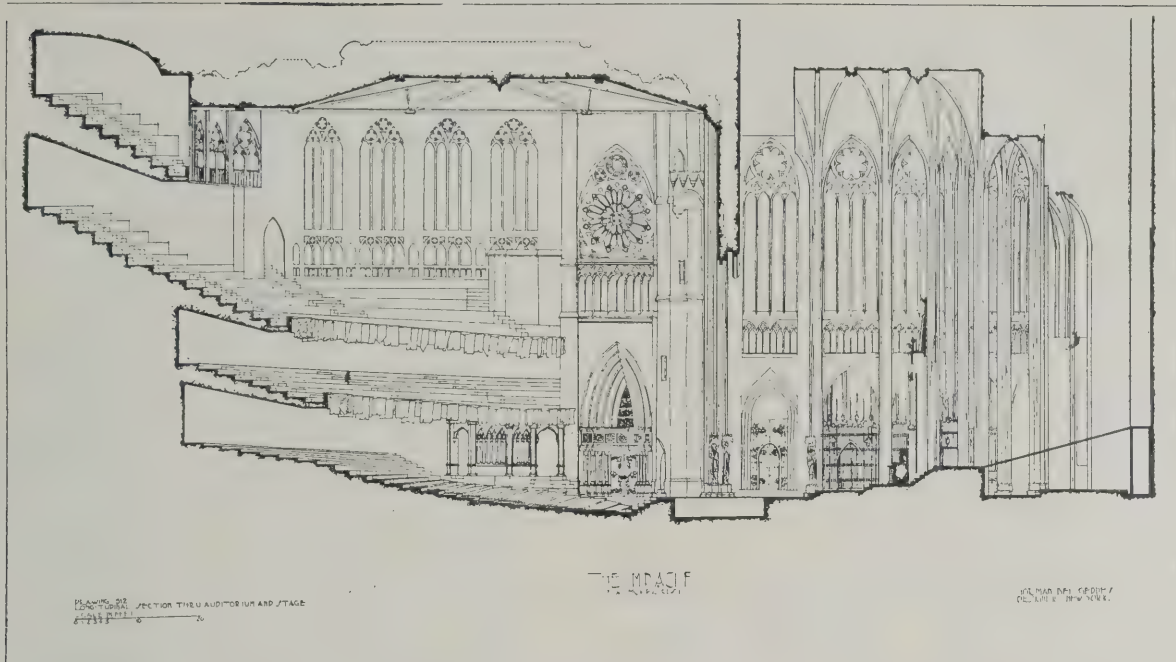
The difficulties, natural and artificial, in the undertaking were enormous, and might have daunted anyone less ardent and intrepid. First among these may be mentioned the *pace* at which the work had to proceed, each lapsed minute ticking off lost dollars on the twin dials of Rental and Overhead. Then there was the imposed necessity of leaving everything intact, since the contract called for the return of the theatre to the owners in its original condition—an achievement analogous to changing the coiffure of a lady without, so to speak, disturbing a hair of her head. Furthermore, a new and different lighting system had to be devised and installed, not for the stage alone, but for the entire auditorium.

These were all practical problems, requiring only technical adroitness; the great and essential difficulty was to adjust a Gothic scheme, its forms, configurations and proportions, to areas and openings pre-established by other and different conditions, and pre-determined by the architecture of the Renaissance.

The apparent ease with which Mr. Geddes effected this adjustment—the obviousness and inevitability of his solution—indicates the possession by him of a power of creative imagination which should not pass unrecognised and unrecorded, for the reason that its manifestation is so rare.



GENERAL GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF "THE MIRACLE" SETTING, UNITING STAGE AND AUDITORIUM BY THE ELIMINATION OF THE ORCHESTRA PIT AND THE PROSCENIUM "PICTURE FRAME."

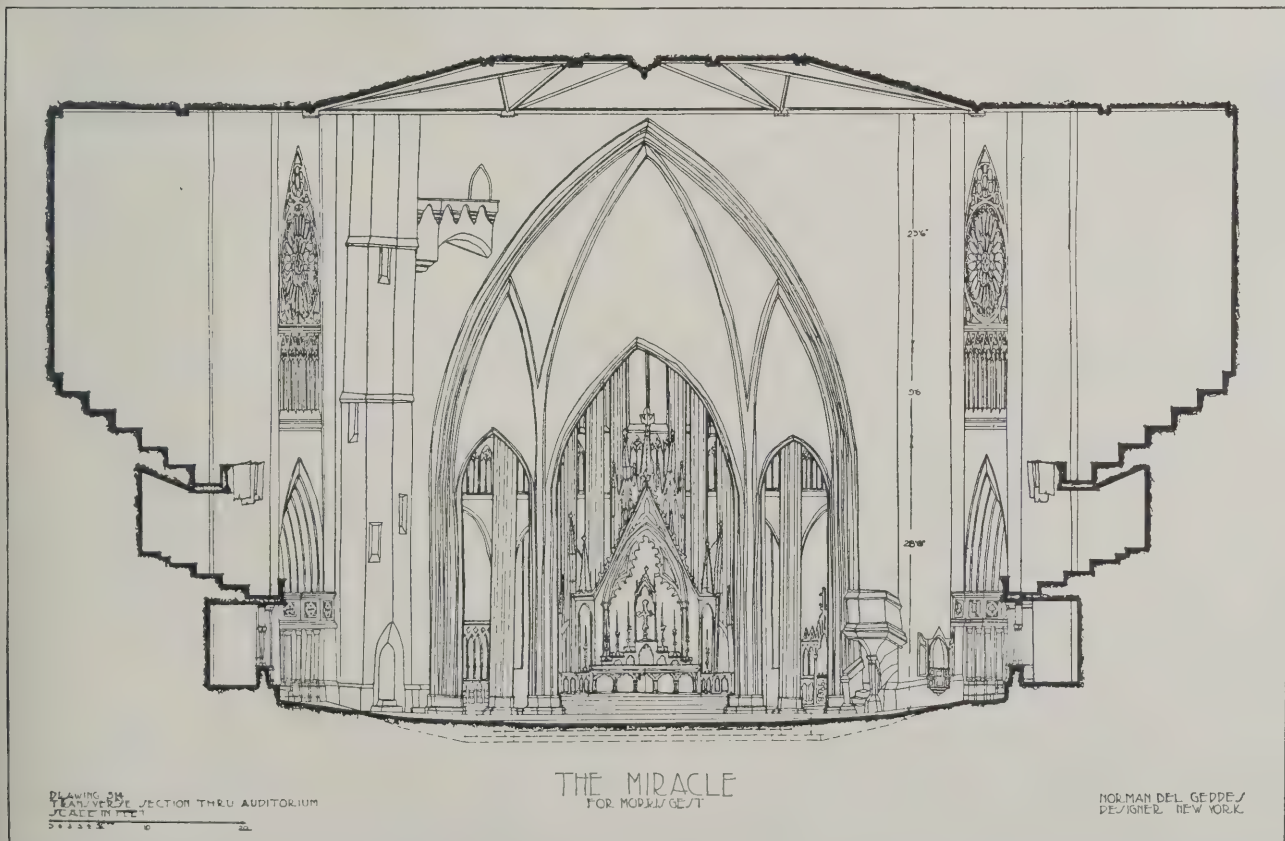


LONGITUDINAL SECTION OF "THE MIRACLE" SETTING. The Stage is illuminated by lamps concealed in the columns and between the banners of the balcony rails. The chief electrician sits in the gallery and directs the lighting by telephone.

Drawings and photographs can convey but a faint idea of the impression this interior makes on the beholder, because they leave out two powerful factors, colour and light. So for the benefit of those readers who must depend only upon the accompanying illustrations I shall try to describe the *achieved effect*.

One's first sensations upon entering are of strangeness and dimness. What illumination there is, comes from a sort of planetary system of circular chandeliers, of which the largest forms, as it were, the central sun. The light from these, tempered by passage through a grisaille medium, shines only downward, so that one looks up into utter darkness; though during certain episodes of the spectacle this darkness is star spangled—"thick inlaid with patines of bright gold."

The auditorium has become the interior of a great cathedral of which the raised chancel corresponds to the stage. The aisles have been widened, paved with slate, and each row of orchestra chairs terminates in a carved pew-end of Gothic design. There is no proscenium in the ordinary meaning of the word, the chancel walls returning at right angles into what corresponds to the transepts, with a high, ornate pulpit on one side, and on the other a stair turret pierced at intervals by windows, and entered by a narrow door. What were the proscenium boxes have become doorways, deeply recessed, crowned by pointed arches, and overhung by balconies. Next come the cloisters, their delicate arcades thrown into silhouette by concealed lights which are made to flicker, like candles blown in the wind. Far aloft on either side are the clerestory windows, revealed only



TRANSVERSE SECTION OF "THE MIRACLE" SETTING. The full height of the proscenium opening is utilised, and no curtain is used. Every effort has been made to bring Stage and Auditorium into such complete co-ordination that the spectators shall feel themselves also participators in the spectacle.

by the glimmer of their reds, blues and purples through the all-enveloping gloom.

The balcony rails, necessary, but not, so to speak, in the picture, are cleverly camouflaged by means of a multitude of heraldic flags, such as used to be displayed in churches, placed at right angles to the face of the balcony. They also serve the purpose of masking the spot lights used for illuminating the stage.

The chancel—which is the stage—extends mysteriously backward from the proscenium wall and terminates in a semi-circular apse. The effect is of a forest of slender, reed-like piers, flung far upward, their bases illuminated by the yellow glow of the candles on the altar and wrought iron rood-screen, their shafts dimly defined against the celestial blues and violets of the apsidal windows, their summits vanishing in the vaulted darkness far overhead.

This "permanent set" is a thing powerfully imagined and completely achieved; it all looks *real*, being three dimensional, but it is nevertheless conceived in the spirit of the painter rather than that of the architect. Mr. Geddes' Gothic will not stand rigid analysis, either from the standpoint of style or structure, but he has caught the *spirit* of the style and recreated the mediæval mood more truly, perhaps, than the most accomplished architect could have done. Though his columns are of pipe-stem frailty; his vaults, varnished mosquito wire; his glass dyed canvas; and his iron but wood, he creates an impression of solidity and immensity by reason of his command of that mysterious and impalpable medium, light, an angel at the elbow of every architect, of which he is heedlessly unaware.

The achieved effect is due, in large part, to the colour and texture of *surfaces*, for it is not enough that light be rich and of the right intensity; the receiving surface must be of a certain richness too. For this the wood was covered with plaster composition mixed with paint, and while the whole

was in a plastic condition it was worked over with a trowel, yielding a rough surface, irregularly dark and light.

But of everything that meets the eye, the windows are perhaps the most moving, the most truly "musical." Though made only of scene-painter's canvas, dyed with aniline of different colours, with the lead lines opaqued, they produce a total impression superior to that of any modern church I can now call to mind. How is this possible, and why? Perhaps it is because to their creator light is an emotional experience, instead of just a convenience to see things by: and colour a possession more precious than fine gold, not to be stupidly squandered or arrogantly displayed, but reverently revealed, in its right setting, neither too much nor too little, too bright or too dim, too warm or too cold.

It is a well-known fact that mediæval Gothic architecture abounded in irregularities of all sorts, asymmetries, crowns, leans, bends and the like, which modern practitioners of the style do not strive to imitate or reproduce, but often to *correct*. But it would seem that the old fellows knew their business best, confusing the sense in order the better to satisfy the soul. Mr. Geddes has been at some pains to achieve the same result by the same means: his shafts lean, his mouldings waver, his interspaces vary from one another in ways scandalizing to the engineer and confusing to the craftsman, but who can doubt, in view of the achieved result, but that they are wrong and he right.

"The Miracle" is not dramatically important, being a more or less incoherent amalgam of religious ceremonial, slow pantomime, and circusy stunts. What makes it deeply felt and vividly remembered is chiefly the over-arching and enveloping beauty of the permanent setting, which, uniting stage and auditorium, actor and audience, induces an unaccustomed mood in the spectator, and suggests all sorts of new possibilities of development in the new art of the theatre.

Correspondence.

[The Editor will not be responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

R.I.B.A. Council Election, 1924-25.

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE'S CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR,—Last year, by an overwhelming majority, a really representative Council was elected to try and come to some satisfactory solution of the unfortunate impasse which had been reached upon the question of Registration, and our relations with the Society of Architects.

We believe that the proposals now submitted by this Council will, if carried, be of the greatest value to the profession in the future, and ensure an end to the unfortunate disputes of recent years.

We therefore ask you to give your votes at the Council Election to the candidates who are named on the opposite page, all of whom have been nominated by the present Council, and support their proposals in full.

[This is signed by six Past-Presidents of the R.I.B.A., and then follow the signatures of the Presidents of Allied Societies and several hundred members of the R.I.B.A. and the Council Election List, which we have already given.]

Consolidation and Registration of the Architectural Profession.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—All Fellows, Associates, and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A., will have received the Council's proposals for dealing with the question of registration and consolidation of the profession and it will be noticed that the scheme is supported by most of the leaders of the profession.

We venture to express the hope that all members practising in the North Wales area will support the proposals and record their votes.

For over 40 years dissensions within the profession have taken up time which should have been used in other and better directions, with the result that Architects have not been able to speak with the united voice of the whole profession and the advancement of the art of architecture has suffered seriously.

The proposals agreed between the Council of the R.I.B.A. and the Council of the Society of Architects for the amalgamation of the two bodies indicate a scheme which is fair and reasonable having regard to the interests of the various classes of members concerned. It is the only practical scheme which has been

evolved during the long controversy. With this problem solved and settled the R.I.B.A. will be afforded the opportunity of exercising its true function—in the words of the Charter "the general advancement of Civil Architecture and for promoting and facilitating the acquirement of the knowledge of the various arts and sciences connected therewith, architecture being an art esteemed and encouraged in all enlightened nations as tending greatly to promote the domestic convenience of citizens and the public improvement and embellishment of towns and cities."

While seeking to protect the interests of the profession let us not overlook our responsibilities to the public, for man's duties extend far beyond the limit of his own personal interest and advantage. As architects it is our privilege, as well as our duty, to foster a larger intelligence and culture in the art of architecture for the common weal.

We are, yours faithfully, G. A. HUMPHREYS (F.), H. HAROLD HUGHES (A.), H. L. NORTH (F.), RICHARD HALL (F.), E. COLWYN FOULKES (A.), The North Wales Architectural Society. Temporary Address: Mostyn Estate Offices, Llandudno, North Wales.

Registration or Unification.

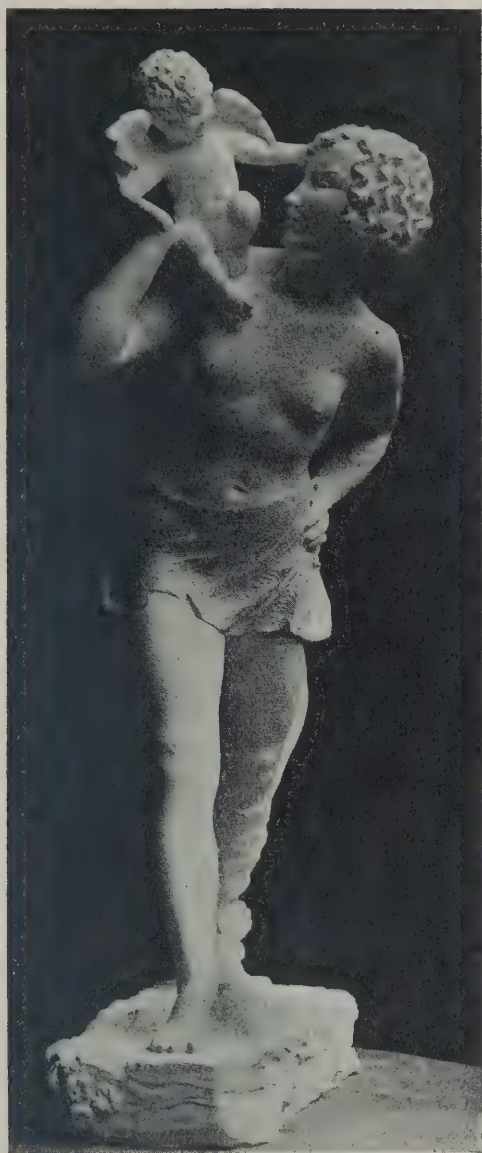
To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—The question of "unification" as presented to the members of the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects, with a recommendation from the Councils of both bodies for acceptance, is now "amalgamation" and not "unification"—quite different objectives—unification meaning "to reduce to unity or uniformity" whilst amalgamation means "to mix, to unite." Why the change of policy?

The Councils of both bodies appear to think that so long as they agree all will be well, but what of the unattached architects? Are they to be part of the "mix" or are all to be "reduced" at a later stage?

A comparison of the number of architects in the country with the memberships of the R.I.B.A. and the S.A. will show that there is a vast majority outside of these bodies.

Yet both Councils tell us that their united effort (when amalgamated) will so impress Parliament that it will grant to them "protection" or "registration"—call it what seems most palatable—but what will be the attitude of the unattached



R.A. 1924. "SPRING." PHOEBE STABLER, A.R.B.S.

architects to this proposal? Will they meekly submit to be ruled by the R.I.B.A. without representation, or will they, too, be admitted into the Institute on similar terms to the present proposals?

In my opinion, the ultimate end of the present procedure—if it is to remain at "amalgamation"—is to invite defeat from outside, to lose the labours of 40 years of the S.A. (an independent body pledged to registration), to lose the present acknowledged status of the R.I.B.A., and, further, to encourage discontent and dissension in the ranks of both Societies.

Other Societies in the past have desired registration, but have either failed to obtain same, after application to Parliament, or have profited by the experience of others and abandoned the attempt. I allude to the Chartered Accountants, the Surveyors, Institution, the Institute of Civil Engineers, and the Worshipful Company of Plumbers. Except for the Lawyers, who obtained registration many years ago, no doubt through their very great influence in the House, no Society has been successful—except those directly connected with Public Health—the Doctors, Nurses, Veterinary Surgeons and Dentists.

It is noted that Mr. Short has at a late hour given an expression of opinion in favour of registration, but, in the light of all the above, is it reasonable to suppose that architects are to be given special consideration. Then why continue to "cry for the moon"?

Again, *prima facie*, registration appears to be the object of the R.I.B.A. and the S.A. But is it? Viewed with an un-biassed mind and in the light of past failures, one is inclined to think that kudos (excuse slang) or perhaps oligarchy is uppermost.

True, the S.A. members lose their individuality, but gain *locus standi*, and in so doing admit defeat in the pursuance of an original objective and give colour to probable failure to continued effort in the same direction when amalgamated.

Further, if it is so desirable that the S.A. should be incorporated with the R.I.B.A. *before registration*, surely it is equally desirable and more reasonable that the R.I.B.A. should grant similar terms to all the members of its own Allied Societies. This is not attempted, and a sufficient reason should be forthcoming from the Institute for the neglect of its own protégé.

Now, a word to the Associates of the R.I.B.A. At the present moment the Associates are "masters of the house," but after "amalgamation" on the terms now propounded it will not be so, because the Associate class will be a minority within the Institute, and for this reason one is not surprised that Fellows and Licentiates are being urged to support the project, as by so doing they advance their own positions to one of authority within the Institute at the expense of the examined class.

Associates should therefore give this careful thought and act as they think best when voting at the forthcoming elections, which, in their own interests, the interests of the Institute, and eventually the interest of the whole profession, will be *against* the present proposals for amalgamation.—Yours etc.,

FRANK H. HEAVEN,
Associate.

Nothing Like Advertising.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Sir Marshall Hall recently urged the claims of advertising in connection with a case he was conducting. "Advertise, advertise, and still further advertise!"

Well this seems to fit the case in connection with the R.I.B.A. The architectural world will be only too well aware that we have two bodies—the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects. The banns of marriage are being published—who is going to be bold enough to forbid the banns? Let us hope the gentle swain and the blushing bride will be able to sustain their part, that the ceremony will duly take place and, as they say in the novelette, "all live happy ever after!"

In the meantime, so we are informed, reputations are being made and reputations being lost. Soon the fight will be over; then shake hands like good sportsmen and get on with your work, and no one will be a penny the worse; on the contrary, we shall have carried out the learned counsel's advice—*advertise!*—Yours faithfully,

RIP VAN WINKLE.

The R.I.B.A. Council Elections.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—It seems to me that the Associates have the only chance they may have of arresting the deluge of the R.I.B.A. by the votes of unqualified men. The present majority of men of training will be converted into a minority and what is to prevent that unqualified majority of urging a wider and more comprehensive scheme of admitting unqualified outsiders in the hope of making a large architectural trades union which they trust will be powerful from its numerical strength?

We admit that many able architects suggest unification, but it is doubtful whether in most cases they have been able to understand the direction in which this movement is sweeping them.

The almost inevitable result of a "unification" victory will be the secession of men from the R.I.B.A. and the foundation of another architectural society based on the maintenance of a good standard of quality rather than on numbers, which may end by obtaining the kudos which the R.I.B.A. will gradually lose.

I admit that all these steps are paralleled by the widening of the political franchise till it embraces a huge preponderance of the uneducated classes, but can we congratulate ourselves on our present political position? We believe in common with many politicians that the adherents of the unification policy may, if they meet with success, be excessively sorry to have achieved their end in the near future.

They are loosing powers which they may find themselves utterly unable to arrest.

But the Associates have matters in their own hands this time, the only question is whether they will follow the example of the Gadarene swine or elect for a surer and safer course.—I am, Sir, ONLY AN ASSOCIATE.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Fifty years of close acquaintance with the R.I.B.A.: a recollection of every one of its Presidents, except one, may entitle me to express the hope that in the forthcoming important election of the Council and of the Committees, the voters will take some pains to ascertain whether or not they for whom their votes are recorded are men who by reasonable attendance at the Council and Committee meetings are likely really to work



No. 29 BRYANSTON SQUARE. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.

for the best interests of the General Body, and for an increase even in the good estimation in which the R.I.B.A. is now held by the public.

The Report of the Council for this year contains the number of attendances of each member on the various Committees (it would have been useful if it had also contained the number of attendances of members of Council) and a perusal of the figures will show what I mean.

The mere credential of a *name*, however eminent, is not likely to further the interests of the Institute unless the owner of it has made up his mind to attend to the work he has undertaken to perform.

I am not a candidate this year for the Council nor for any of the Committees, but I may repeat what I have been saying and writing of late, that there appears to be an inclination to be "patronised" by Officialdom; that dilettantism is creeping into a body which should be essentially an artistic and a practical one; that 20 *Boards and Committees*—the number this year—rather supports my point of view, and leads me to hope that the new Council and Committees will be composed of men who will minimise those "embellishments," and get on with the useful work of the Institute in a practical manner.—I am, Sir,

Yours, etc.,
WM. WOODWARD.

15 Great James Street, W.C.1.
May 13, 1924.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—Mr. Cross' letter in your last week's issue raises a most important point which I, in common with many of my friends, would like cleared up before we give our votes. I have always been a very strong advocate of Registration, but I confess to a dislike for the unification policy of the Council. If it is the only way in which Registration can be furthered I and my

friends would swallow what I regard as an unpleasant pill. But I have never heard it stated that a Society formed to obtain Registration would oppose any scheme which did not merge them in the R.I.B.A., and I have never met anyone who was so anxious that the R.I.B.A. should administer the whole matter that he thinks that body would refuse to support a Registration measure simply because it was administered by a joint board on which the R.I.B.A. would naturally have the largest number of representatives.

We do not want Registration simply because we want to increase the business administered by the R.I.B.A., but because we wish to prevent untrained men from practising as architects.

If the President would take Mr. Shortt's opinion as to whether the prospects of a Registration Bill would not be as good if two bodies supported the measure independently of one another as they would if one body comprising the members of both advocated it I should be satisfied. At present I do not think the Council has proved its points.—Yours, etc.,

A PROVINCIAL ARCHITECT.

Art Education.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—I am inclined to wonder at times whether it is advisable to send my son to an art school. If I visit some of the picture shows of the present day, I am invited to look at drawings and paintings which my boy produces now. Houses and trees, for I suppose the curious fibre-looking things are intended for trees, my boy tells me that he meant them for trees and that is how trees appear to him. I note that many of the pictures in these exhibitions are to be sold, and on enquiry I learned that the prices are frequently over three figures. Why need I send my boy to learn. He already produces paintings which resemble those which command good prices. He has a natural talent, and he is not shy and retiring. He tells me that I do not



DERBY DANCE HALL DECORATIONS. By G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

understand and that all the old fashioned ideas that were in force twenty years' ago are all wrong. He does not take very kindly to the idea of attending an art school. When I suggest that the head of a figure he painted in his last picture was about three times too large he looked at me with astonishment written all over his face. "But, dad, that is a detail. It's the impression that counts to-day. The impression that man gave me was that he had a large head and I have just painted that impression. Possibly if I saw him again he would not strike me as having a big head." When I ventured to suggest that what I supposed my boy intended to be arms and legs looked rather like flat pieces of boards stuck out at angles, without much shape, he said that he was quite satisfied if I thought they were arms and legs. Very few people possessed decently-shaped limbs. Why introduce the ideal on every occasion when it so rarely existed. Most people's arms and legs appeared to him that way. He had no wish to paint automatically correct arms and legs; to do so would be to mar the spirit of the whole composition.

What am I to do. My whole nature and education revolts against leaving my boy to follow his own free will, and yet if I insist on his attending a school of art it is more than likely to produce in four or five years' time the pictures I painted twenty years' ago and found so difficult to place anywhere. I should greatly appreciate the advice of some of your readers as to what, in their opinion, is my best course.

CITY ARCHITECT.

Plays and Playhouses.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly give a little space to me in return for the extremely kind attention you have given to my address, "Plays and Playhouses," delivered to the Architects and Surveyors Assistants' Professional Union at Olympia.

It is an honour for me that you considered my speech worthy of such a detailed criticism, and I hope I do not seem discourteous if I now say that your critic is evidently rather out of date and out of touch, too, with my subject.

He says I told nothing but what he could expect every member of the architectural profession to give every attention to when planning a theatre: clearly, then, it is the employer of the architect who needs enlightenment regarding conditions of life and work behind the stage, and of course the architect who attempted to thus distil the light in such a quarter would never get a theatre to build; someone more "practical" would get the job and the acting profession would be as badly used in this matter as ever.

What I said was—and it was agreed to by the meeting—that a strong body representing all the arts might bring home the existing iniquities to the Authorities so that the Regulations which govern the building of Theatres may be revised with due consideration for all whose work lies the other side of the safety curtain. Thus the architects—who have ideals and know what is needed—would not then be forced to provide inadequate quarters for their fellow artists.

The fact that theatres in London are mostly out-of-date does not help your critic's arguments. Regulations can force factories

to be pulled down which do not conform to the rules regulating working conditions therein. Theatres are not *less* important than factories. As to our crowded sites—that is the problem the architect has to face—how to give the necessary accommodation back and front on a given piece of land. He is forced to comply with regulations. (*The Regulations must be revised at once*). At present in any case there is nothing to prevent some form of lift so that actors and supers need not everlastingly run up and down stairs. Air and light should be available even in a small space, and surely draughts can be avoided without overflowing into the next-door premises? Architects should live behind the scenes of a theatre before designing one! As for space—the worst conditions are in the provinces where there is the most land available!

Now to turn to your critic's remarks on what he thinks I said about lighting in the theatre. I distinctly said only one London theatre had up-to-date apparatus, and that apparatus was German—and I even more distinctly added that we had plenty inventive genius at home and did not need to go abroad for lighting inventions. I even mentioned two British inventors whose work cannot be found in any London theatre.

As to the Charing Cross Removal Scheme, space forbids my saying much here, but I must refer your critic to the London Society.

The joke of the criticism comes next—for your critic confounds a National Theatre with a Museum! Before this words fail me; but I must protest against his misreading of what I said about museums. I love museums, but I said, we have all we want. The nineteenth century gave us superb museums, and we do not need any new ones. The twentieth century must build a very different temple to the Arts.

I am astonished that your critic has never heard of the Scheme for the Palace of Arts put forward by C. Jervis Hind (Hungary had three before the war and America is now building one), and in what abysmal cave has he been living that he should write of a Mr. Herbert's model? Surely everyone has seen this model and knows Mr. Herbert? If not, let those who have been living in wayside places betake themselves to the London Society and see it now. If your critic will lead the way there he will soon see that the site I propose for the Palace of Arts is a long way from the "Old Vic" and is in a position in the banks of the river, quite as central as is that of the new County Hall.

I begin to wonder what is the age of your critic. He must be a veritable Methusaleh if he is really convinced that all the art societies have "splendid premises" and "comfortable quarters."

Surely he knows—at least by hearsay, if too old to leave his own fireside—that Burlington House is already too small to house its own societies with comfort, and that its galleries are quite out of date in shape and size? What other art society has even such fine premises? Is not our best Society "The International Society of Sculptors, Painters, and Carvers," founded by Whistler and presided over by Rodin (at one time) now completely without a place to exhibit at all? Are not most of the galleries held by the Royal Societies—if not more cramped and antiquated than Burlington House—at least inadequate and obsolete?

After twenty years' experience I know that art societies are



difficult to move, and that some of them have ears but will not hear. Of such, apparently, is your critic, since he prefers, it seems, to mishear rather than to repeat what I really said. *I never suggested an amalgamation of art societies or anything so absurdly impossible.* Is it necessary at this date to again explain the meaning of the word "confederation"—and even if I did explain anew, would Methusaleh lend his ears to hear what I said? I doubt it—after twenty years' experience I very much doubt it! In any case, confederation is *not* amalgamation.

It is not thought extraordinary when various lawyers carry on their separate businesses in one house in Lincoln's Inn, nor when several doctors ply their profession in one house in Harley Street, nor even when several City companies take up quarters in the Bush Buildings. So why your critic should sliver and pull his beard when I mention the fact that we need a bigger—Bush-Building—affair to house various art societies I fail to understand. There are over 350 art societies in Britain, and how many of them have adequate London quarters?

I am getting rather tired of pulling Methusaleh's beard to such a length—but I must just clear out the tangles; for he has become quite fuddled over what I said about ourselves paying for this building that we need. I explained clearly long ago in a contemporary and again in my speech—but since it fell on deaf ears at Olympia, I trust a repetition will simplify matters:

There are half a million professional workers organised in Britain. There are two million intellectual workers (as they call them) organised in Europe. The half-million in Britain can, with the aid of the British Confederation of Art (on whose council the former organisation is well represented) develop into one million people represented in the National Confederation; and by asking one million people to each contribute one pound per annum, you get an annual income of one million pounds a year, and with that these people can have their building without taxing the State.

Surely Methusaleh will remember that it was in this manner the money was found to pay for the great Cathedrals?

It is very simple, when these people want their palace, or temple, of all the arts, which will also serve them (as is the way with temples) for a market place, and when they want it badly enough it is in their own power to pay for it. So I say, we can build it ourselves.

I also do say that having organised ourselves and proved our movement and our building to be, as it is, of undoubted and modern educational value—if the State likes to give a grant such as is too often given to moribund institutions, we should be foolish to refuse it. But my whole point is that we can, if we wish, become so strong as to be in no need of State funds at all.

Methusaleh may turn wearily from all these harsh facts, so let me throw in a little old story which is ever new: Now, St. Teresa wanted to put up a building, and being told by the authorities that there was no money, said: "I will give you all I have that the hospital may be built; here is sixpence, and here is Teresa, and here is God"—and with that sixpence and Teresa and God that hospital was built, and it stands to this day.

So I say to artists both within and without the theatres—If you want a National Theatre and a Palace of the Arts—you can, by organisation and goodwill, build it yourselves, own it and draw profits from it yourselves.

AMELIA DEFRIES.

May 16, 1924.

The Royal Technical College, Glasgow.

On Saturday afternoons in April and May the students and staff of the Architecture and Building Day and Evening Classes of this College visited the following buildings, which are presently in course of construction.

The first visit was to the Automobile Club additions, Blythswood Square, Glasgow. The special interest in this job lay in the fact that, without altering the dignified external design, the entire side of the square is being converted from separate self-contained houses, of which it was originally composed, to serve the purposes of an important club-house. The buildings being cleared so that only carcass work remained, the entire interior is being replanned and fitted up to suit its new purpose. Mr. James Miller, A.R.S.A., is the architect of this work and of the Accountants' Hall additions, which were next visited. Here the new work is of steel construction, which was exposed to view at the time of the visit. The old buildings had originally been self-contained houses of correct classic style, dating from about the middle of the nineteenth century which, although in process of alteration to serve as offices, still retained much original work of interest. Mr. Samuel Smith is clerk of works on both of these buildings.

The next building visited was Messrs. MacFarlane, Lang & Co.'s new biscuit factory at Tollcross. Here the architect, Mr. C. Ernest Monro, A.R.I.B.A., honoured the party with his presence and gave a singularly instructive statement of the origin and development of the design of the factory, which included descriptions of many of the fittings, whereby the students were enabled to follow the various processes of manufacture from the arrival of the flour by railway at one end of the site to the despatch of the completed article at the other. A great deal of most interesting work was seen, including construction in stone, brick, timber, and steel, also reinforced concrete floors in process of erection, while other parts were complete and in occupation. Mr. Donald McIntyre, the clerk of works, was also present.

The last day was devoted to Paisley, where the following works presently being carried out from Sir Robert Lorimer's designs, were visited. Here the new choir of the Abbey Church, which was begun by the late Dr. MacGregor Chalmers, was first examined and admired as a fine example of masonry carried out in Cullaloe sandstone. As only the springer stones of the vaulting were completed, the work was at a most instructive stage for inspection. Thereafter the masons' shed was visited, where stones were seen on the bankers in process of being dressed to the desired form, and at another part of the shed the work of the carvers was seen. The central tower, which is now in process of being completed, was ascended and its most interesting detail studied. After a few remarks on the old Abbey Church nave, transepts, and St. Mirin's Aisle, also on the new cloisters, the party proceeded to the War Memorial, which is being built of Shap granite. Mr. Wornell, the clerk of works, conducted the party over all the buildings, while Mr. Taylor, the builder of the Abbey Church additions, was also present.

At the close of each visit Professor Gourlay, the head of the Architecture and Building Department in the College, expressed the hearty thanks of the students and staff to the architects of the buildings visited, also to the clerks of works and all who had in any way assisted to make the visits so valuable and instructive as they had been.

CHARLES GOURLAY.



HOUSE ON FRIMLEY RIDGES. BRIANT POULTER, Architect.

Planning Estate Roads.

By T. ALWYN LLOYD, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

Following, as I do to-day, such a distinguished roads engineer as Mr. J. A. Brodie, I feel a certain hesitation in speaking to you on roads, though in this case they are not main, but estate roads. I can only hope that my contribution, based on a more or less varied experience in the lay-out of garden village estates, may be of service, or at any rate of some interest, to other members of the Institute. These estates have either formed part of town-planning schemes under the Act, or they have been carried out as assisted housing schemes under recent legislation. As indicated in the title, my remarks will apply principally to the planning of roads and not to their construction.

A good deal has happened during recent years to alter the character of estate roads from what was considered suitable in the early days of the town-planning movement. These changes have come about as a result of the greatly increased volume of motor traffic of all kinds, and are also consequent on the enhanced cost of road-making since the war. Fifteen or twenty years ago, when the first site-planning experiments came into being, the natural tendency was towards a reaction against the hide-bound and entirely unsatisfactory type of "by-law road" development. Such roads, in their rigid uniformity, were obviously unsuited to modern ideas in estate development. They were wasteful and expensive, and as a direct consequence houses were crowded on to the frontages in a very congested manner.

Judged by to-day's standards, it would seem that this very natural desire to plan narrow, lightly-constructed residential roads was carried too far. This certainly applies to many of the minor roads carried out under State-aided housing schemes during recent years, when costs were so high. The widths of carriage-ways were often cut down to dangerous limits, foot-paths were eliminated or narrowed down; some of these roads will have to be altered. The use of motors for private purposes and for the delivery of shop goods and furniture, apart from the heavier motor transport, has made a profound difference in conditions previously governed by horse-drawn vehicles, in regard to widths and construction of roads and to the area of turning spaces. The necessary provision of private garages has also modified one's ideas in grass margins and entrance gates. There is surely a happy medium at which we should aim in laying out estate roads, somewhere between the rigid extravagance of pre-war "by-law roads" and the ill-advised economy of the other extreme to which I have referred.

In addressing town-planners, one need not spend unnecessary time in referring to the elements of good planning, which are known to you all: the suitability of plan to site, the necessity for keeping levels and gradients well in mind, the preservation of natural beauty, and so on. All one need say is what has been said about most things that matter—the more we have experience of them, the more elusive do they become! The easy solution, which at first sight seemed self-evident, does not always turn out to be the right one. It is even dangerous to be dogmatic about "formality" and "informality" in planning,

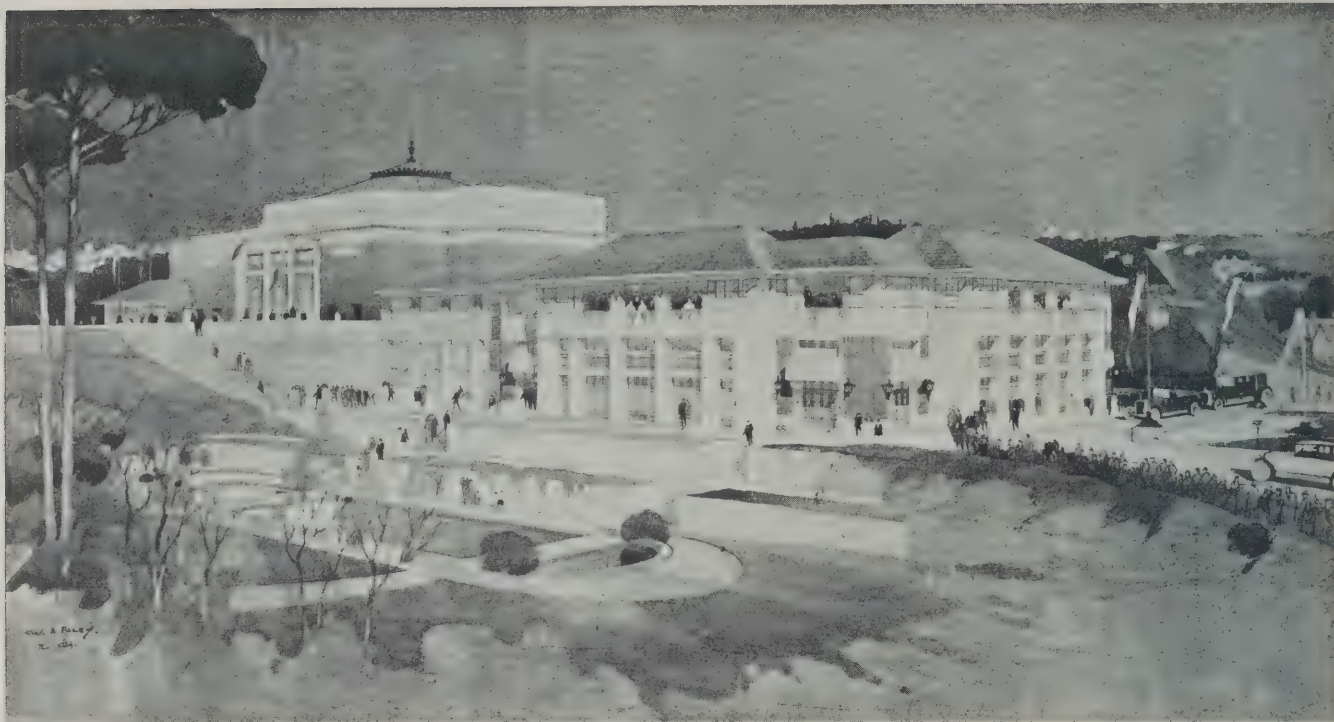
because the best plan is so frequently a combination of the two. There is as little purpose in designing roads as in designing buildings in one dimension, and thinking only of the plan; one must go much further than the plan and visualise these future roads from the view-point of the wayfarer, endeavouring to obtain a complete picture, "in the round," not merely one patch of it. Essentially, it is imagination in planning, not technical competence only, which is required.

With regard to the site and its physical features, may one utter a word of friendly protest against some of the so-called "practical" methods of dealing with natural obstacles? So sophisticated have we become, particularly as the result of drab urban environment, that even in these days, when there is a growing appreciation of the advantage of comely surroundings, there is frequently a desire to plane things down to a flat uniformity. If it is proposed to run a road alongside a stream, or if there is a good pond which the designer thinks of incorporating in his lay-out, some wiseacre will become very eloquent on the fear that future residents will treat the stream with disrespect, allow their children to fall into the water, or that the stream will be filled up with tin cans and other refuse. It will require all the persuasive powers of the town-planner to prevent those in authority from running that stream in covered pipes as a precaution against such gloomy forebodings becoming the rule instead of the exception! When we suggest preserving a belt of fine trees at the side of a road or behind houses, we shall be told that trees keep out the sun or hide the view, or that the leaves will block up the rainwater gutters. And so, if we let them, our doubting friends would have us cover over the water, cut down the trees, and uproot the hedges, the latter being considered insufficiently regular to form fences for new villas. These reflections, perhaps platitudes, are given because they go to show that, like liberty, the price of successful site planning—harmonious blending of the natural and the artificial—is eternal vigilance!

There is everything to be said for a line of good trees being left along one side of a new road, even if new trees have to be planted on the other side. The houses can be set well back behind the larger trees, possibly by means of an open green, and they will give useful relief in the lay out. Whilst it is not worth altering the line of road to fit in with a ragged old hedge, a hedge of reasonable regularity can be laid and trimmed before the gardens are planned, and made into a very satisfactory boundary at the side of the road.

Most excellent results follow the placing of a road alongside a brook, provided ordinary care is taken to keep the place tidy. A low fence or grass bank at the side of the footpath will act as a useful barrier; if light concrete or timber bridges are run across at intervals to give access to the houses on one side, they provide picturesque features.

There is nothing which looks better than a properly constructed road running along the bottom of a valley; the slopes or walls to the front gardens of the adjacent houses, if they are kept within reasonable limits, add to the interest of the picture. On



BOURNEMOUTH PAVILION. WYVILLE G. HOME AND SHIRLEY KNIGHT, Architects.

the other hand, a road taken along a ridge, although very delightful to saunter on in open country, is not satisfactory to lay out, as the gardens sloping down to the houses on each side give a feeling of restlessness which is not pleasant. For the same reason, a cul-de-sac running down hill is not a good plan to adopt.

One frequently notices a sort of aimlessness in the directions in which estate roads are run, even on flat sites. When some existing natural feature or building can be worked in as a terminal feature, it is obviously desirable to make use of it. One of the most attractive roads within my own recollection runs downhill for some distance, and the vista over the adjoining country is terminated on the road axis by a prominent hill-top, which adequately completes the picture. A tall clump of trees also forms an excellent termination. If one does not already exist, it is worth while planting such a clump to close the vista. A church tower or other prominent object makes an equally good axial finish. A long stretch of road running on indefinitely with nothing to complete the distance is very wearisome.

It usually happens that some portion of the estate to be laid out fronts an existing main road. Here it is important not only to provide for future widening of the road, but to set the new houses well back from the dust and noise of traffic. This can be done to best advantage by providing an inner carriage drive immediately in front of the houses, with an intervening strip of grass or shrubs between drive and road. The extra cost of this drive is well repaid by the convenience and quietness afforded; the saving on long front paths and fences can also be set against the cost of the drive.

It is desirable to mark adequately the entrances to the principal estate roads from main roads. This can be effected by erecting dignified gate piers, or by emphasising the junctions by specially built-up corners. As the most valuable building plots are situated at such road junctions, the corners are frequently left unbuilt on for many years after the remainder of the estate is completed. This presents a very poor setting to the roads, and, more than anything else, contributes to the sense of dissatisfaction which one encounters in viewing an unfinished estate. At road junctions a sufficiently ample radius to give space for cars to drive in and out without damaging kerbs or causing alarm to passing traffic should always be allowed.

Regarding the classification of estate roads, always a knotty problem, I desire to suggest the following as a basis for discussion:—

(1) SECONDARY ROADS, for connecting the main roads and opening up the estate, but not taking through traffic. In most cases a total width of 40 ft. is ample, with a carriageway of 18 ft., but it may be desirable in certain roads to increase this to 20 ft. or even a little more; 18 ft. provides ample space for two lines of traffic, which, except for main roads, would appear to be quite sufficient.

(2) SUBSIDIARY OR RESIDENTIAL ROADS, not taking the main volume of estate traffic, but merely giving access to adjoining

houses. Their length would naturally be limited, in accordance with town-planning practice. The total widths of such roads need not exceed 30 ft., with carriageways of 14 ft. to 16 ft. In the absence of cross-roads, turning spaces are required, giving an area of 30 ft. by 30 ft.

(3) CUL-DE-SAC ROADS AND ACCESS DRIVES. These would only be used to serve groups of houses in short drives or quadrangles round greens or road-bays. Carriageways need not be wider than 10 ft., with or without footpaths in addition, but adequate passing places must be provided. Recently attempts have been made to cut down the carriageways to 8 ft. wide, but this is, in my opinion, insufficient.

Building lines should be not less than 70 ft. across the fronts, except in special cases, such as hillsides and at junctions. In 40 ft. roads this gives front gardens of 15 ft. deep, which is a useful minimum to adhere to.

With regard to *footpaths*, except in the very narrow roads, a width of less than 4 ft. 6 in. is insufficient. It is not easy to confine foot passengers, passing one another, to a narrower space, and where it can be got 6 feet is an excellent width. Pedestrians so often seem to overflow either on to the margin or on to the kerb.

One word about materials. In urban schemes, artificial stone flags with a border of gravel or brick is the most satisfactory paving, and next comes tar paving. I should never use anything but stone or concrete kerbs.

As to the vexed question of *grass margins*, that pitfall which has for so long beset the estate planner, these in their patchy state are a frequent source of disfigurement in so many garden villages. As in other matters, I believe we are coming round to a more balanced perspective. In rural schemes, rough, informal margins do not look much out of place. There are fewer houses and larger gardens than in town to set against them. Traffic being less, the margins do not usually become quagmires. In urban schemes, however, the turfless grass margin is an abomination, and rather than retain the idea for sentimental reasons, it should be frankly given up, and gravel, red ash, or, better still, low shrubs be put in its place. If shrubs are used, they should be carefully selected, small-leaved, sturdy varieties, but not the crude laurel or golden privet of commerce. I can think of nothing so depressing as dusty laurel and privet, enclosed in the iron railings which we associate with town "shrubberies."

The fault with margins often lies in their narrow width, which, like a carpet in a tiny room, gets frequently trodden over in every part. Nothing less than 4 feet 6 inches to 6 feet is of much use. The most satisfactory margin within my knowledge is 17 feet wide, though, of course, such a width as this entails some extra cost in maintenance; but a margin of 8 feet to 10 feet wide looks very pleasing. I think there is a consensus of opinion which favours the placing of the margin next to the kerb, but even here one finds it hard to dogmatise. Where old hedges or trees are preserved it is certainly better to place the margin

No. 2

May, 1924

SOLIGNUM EXHIBITION NEWS

Brown Solignum on the Colonial Bank.

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next to the front fence. In narrow roads margins are useless, except purely as a finish under hedges.

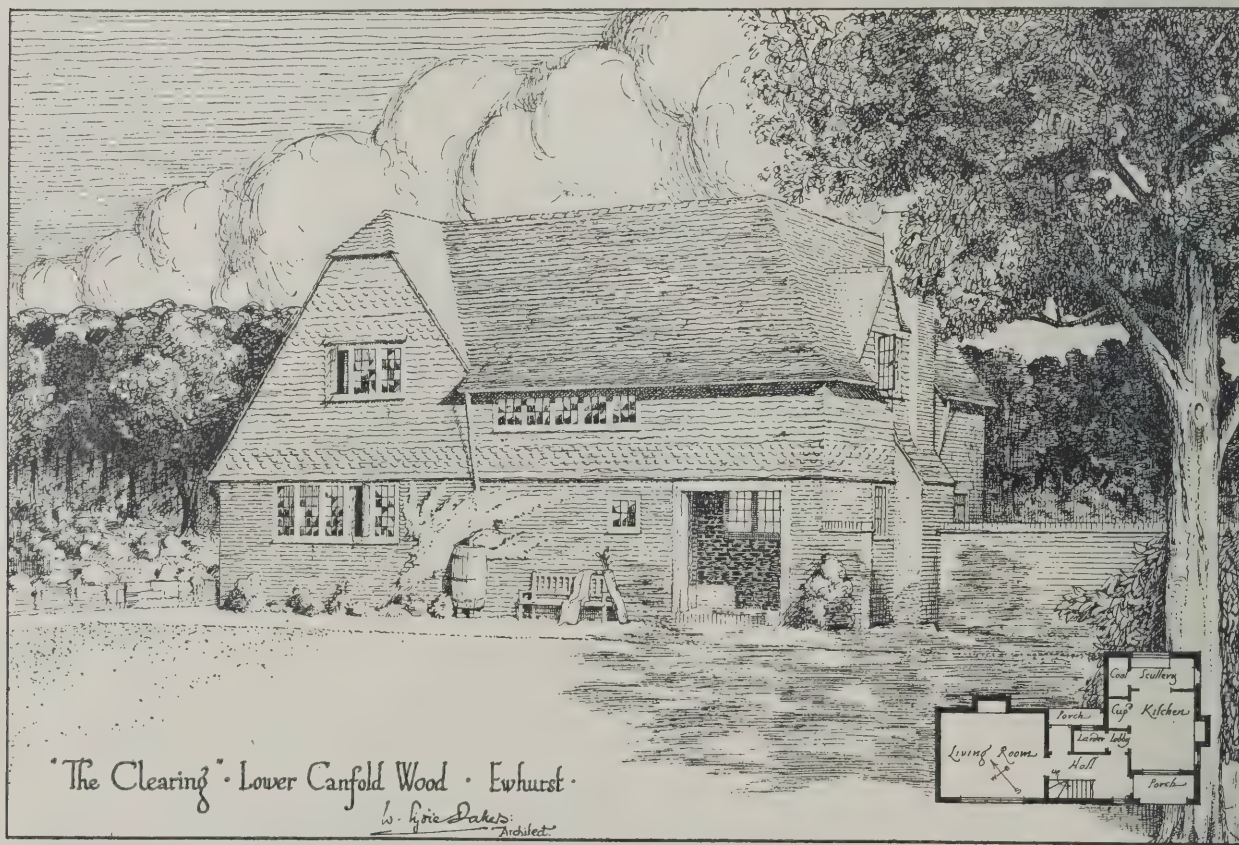
With regard to tree planting, this should always be done with discrimination, and not too mechanically. Unless there is a fairly wide road with ample margins, the planting of trees at regular intervals is not so pleasing as trees placed in a few well-chosen positions, say, by road junctions or in setbacks and changes in direction. Of the large trees, chestnut, beech, plane, lime and ash are always safe; in the smaller trees, mop acacia, thorns, cherry, or plum are decorative and satisfactory. For hedges, in addition to the common privet, beech, cotoneaster, euonymus, holly and hornbeam cannot be bettered.

The Empire Exhibition, Wembley.

To-day we went to Wembley to be amused and to obtain our first general impression. We were very pleased with the services that took and brought us back home again. The organisers have really brought the vast Exhibition very close to the Londoner. The bus service is little short of wonderful, and this is only one method of approach and departure. The fact that a children's day nursery has been arranged and staffed with efficient and trained individuals seems to indicate that the promoters realised that, taken as a whole, the exhibition is not a place that would appeal directly to children. The catering is planned on very sound lines, and refreshment rooms have been built to suit all classes. The mud has vanished, though occasionally one is reminded of its all-pervading presence by a softening of the upper surface; but those who visited the ground in January last will be surprised at the changes. Then it seemed that the mud could never be obliterated. The amusement grounds, and specially positions close to the switchback railways, were then just masses of creamy soft mud, 6 to 8 inches deep. To-day this is all changed. We were rather disappointed with the amusement fair. There were too many booths and too

much shouting on the part of the owners. If you desire to lose all sense of personal dignity and are willing to offer yourself and your antics as a source of amusement to others, and are able to be amused yourself in this process, then the Fair is the place to enjoy oneself. If you have a pound or two to spend and do not mind returning home with dolls scantily clad, and ornaments of an inartistic character, the booths are the places where such pleasures and rewards can be realised.

If you consider it a pleasure to turn a handle at a frantic rate in the hope that the machinery which is set in motion by your efforts will so harmonise as to enable the movements of a spider you control to catch a fly over which you have no control, the Wembley amusement fair will afford you many opportunities for this class of pleasure. If you prefer another kind of enjoyment you can win a prize by turning a handle which under certain circumstances will stop a dancing lady whose body is only just covered decently. The never-stop railway has not started yet. The water-chute is also incomplete, but the lady palmists would collectively make quite a crowd. There is also a lady with a thousand eyes. Most men are content with possessing a member of the fair sex who has only two eyes. It is all very cheap. We miss the fat lady and the lion stuffed with straw; the rhino is there, though he is not in the amusement fair, but in the Malay Pavilion; and, come to think of it, this rhino is a hippo. Those members of the British Empire who wish to visit the Palace of Arts and the Queen's Dolls' House should leave their walking-sticks and umbrellas at home. You are obliged to give these articles up before entering this pavilion, and there is at present only one cloak-room attendant to administer to all needs. If you are fortunate you will be able to deposit your articles in 15 minutes, and when you come out secure them again in about the same time. During the short visit we paid this afternoon to the Palace of Arts we were mainly reminded of the existence of a number of works that never seem to go into permanent retirement.



Bethnal Green Museum.

The Bethnal Green Branch of the Victoria and Albert Museum will be opened in future on Monday and Thursday evenings until 9 p.m. This arrangement, made to give facilities for study to those who are unable to use the Museum at other times.

Arrangements have also been made for a guide-lecturer to be available to conduct parties round the galleries of this Museum on Monday evenings (7-8 p.m.) and Thursday afternoons (3-4 p.m.). No charge is made for his services.

The first of these tours took place early this month. A list of the subjects to be dealt with will be issued shortly.

A new Presbyterian church is to be erected by a Glasgow architect at Portrush.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MAY 23, 1874.

AN UNDERGROUND MARKET.

A curious discovery has been made in the Rue Bonaparte, Paris. A long and deep excavation being made there in connection with the sewerage works, a sort of crypt was discovered, carefully executed in brick and stonework, covered by a fine vaulting, and furnished with a bold staircase from above. The work seems to be of about the time of Louis XIII. It is supposed that the monks of the Abbey of Saint Germain who made, or deepened, the small arm of the Seine in order to feed the moat and ponds of their monastery, and who had the sole right of fishing in those waters, built this subterranean structure as a market in which to sell the fish. Further excavations are now in progress.

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NEW BUSINESS PREMISES, OXFORD STREET. J. S. GIBSON & GORDON, Architects.

The Way to Agreement in the R.I.B.A.

We have said nothing which would influence an elector's vote during the contest which has taken place, but between the time that the last vote has been given and the results announced we may state our conclusions.

One side or other must have achieved success, but we do not know on which side the balance is weighted down.

We will assume in the first place that the candidates of the Defence League have obtained a majority. If this is the case we think they, believing and asserting that the will of the majority should determine the policy of the R.I.B.A., ought to offer to submit the question of Unification to a referendum without reference to personal issues and to abide by the results of the referendum. Their second object must be to

obtain the consent of the Privy Council to such alterations in the Charter and Bye-Laws as would enable any controversial issue to be settled by a poll demanded by a certain number of electors.

If their opponents succeed we believe the way to agreement should be the same. A large proportion of the members—we believe an overwhelming majority—of those who have opposed them would abandon their attitude and help the Council to carry out a policy which they did not agree with were they convinced that it was the wish of a majority of the electorate. Surely such a consummation is devoutly to be wished in the interests of all? The Defence League does not admit that a Council Election can be regarded as a certain indication of the wishes of the electorate on a matter of principle, whereas a poll would be. There is



R.A. 1924. GARDEN FIGURE. THOMAS BAYLEY, Sculptor.

little wish to replace A by B, but there is a determination to oppose a certain policy unless it is proved to be that of a majority of the electorate.

The alternative is to fight the Council up to the last lap to endeavour to prevent it from obtaining a two-thirds majority at a general meeting, and to contest its proposals when submitted to the Privy Council which has to sanction the necessary changes in Bye-Laws and Charter. Further than this, those who object may if they so elect secede from the R.I.B.A. and found a new society to maintain principles which they will claim the Institute has abandoned. We do not say they will take this course, but if they do not there may be some individual secessions from the R.I.B.A., and there will certainly remain a discontented and unsatisfied section within the R.I.B.A. which while belonging to it will remain aloof from it.

The Defence League is already obtaining counsel's opinion on a most important point which appears to have been overlooked and which is this:—

The Council's contention is that if a measure proposed by A is opposed by B its chances of success will be jeopardised and that therefore it is necessary for A to absorb B in order to obtain the passage of a Registration Bill.

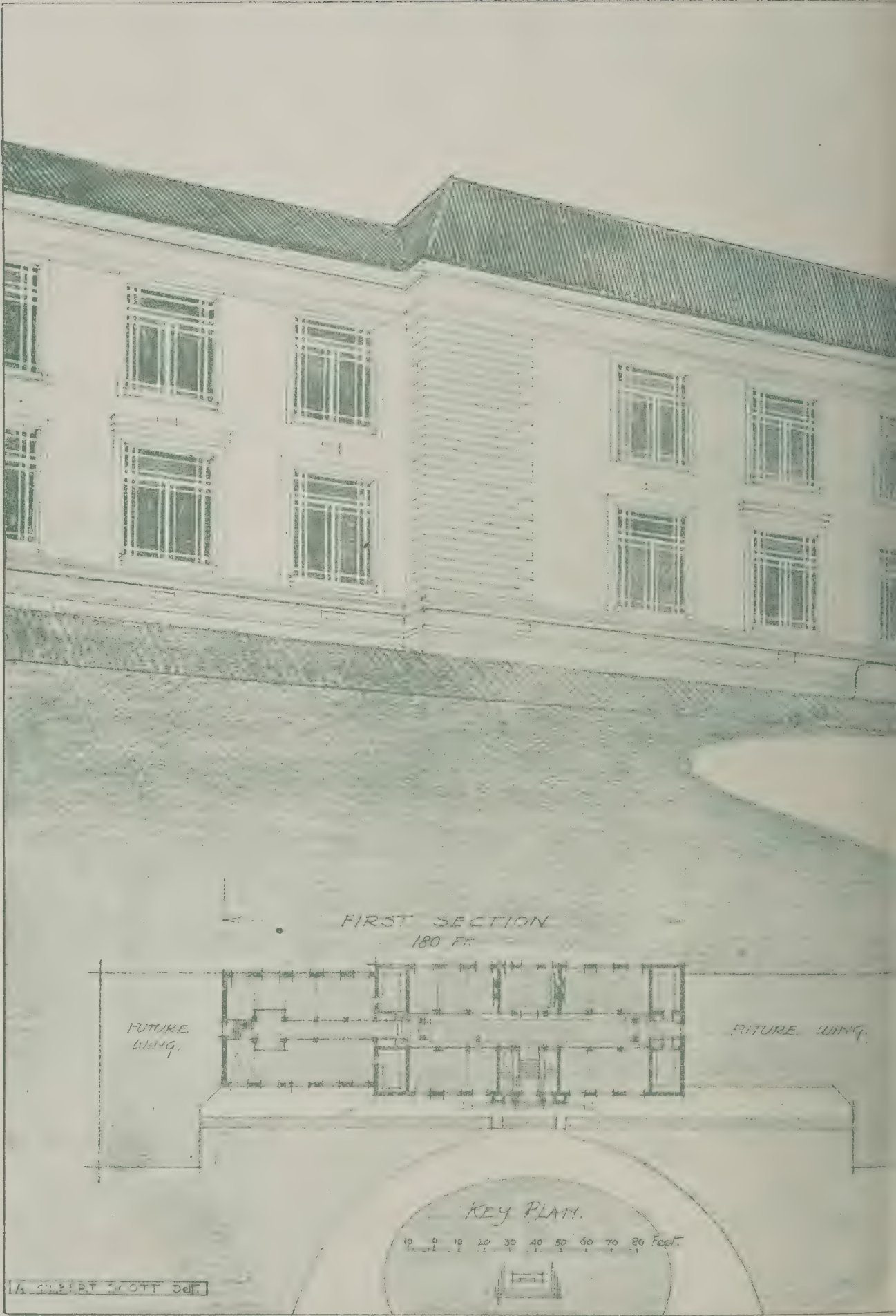
But counsel's opinion has never been obtained on what seems to us to be the cardinal question, which is, if a measure is jointly considered desirable by both A and B—which are independent entities—that measure has not an equal chance of success as it would have had A absorbed B. We have very little doubt what any lawyer's opinion would be on such an issue.

If our opinion is confirmed Registration, which we know a majority of architects desire, should not be mixed up with Unification and the latter should not be stated as a necessary means to an end.

It may or may not be desirable in itself, but it is a question in our view to be decided on its merits and not as having any bearing on Registration, with which it seems to us to have no connection, as we believe will be indicated by counsel's opinion which the Defence League are obtaining, an opinion which we have no doubt Mr. Shortt or any other good lawyer would corroborate.

The only reasonable objection which the Society of Architects could make to a Registration Bill promoted by the R.I.B.A. or any other authority would be that its provisions were inadequate or that the Society had not sufficient representation on the board which administers it. Such objections might in the usual course be raised when a bill came before a Committee of the House of Commons, but such objections do not indicate opposition, but are customary incidents in Parliamentary procedure. But to believe that the Society would oppose a bill drafted to effect the object for which the Society was founded is to assume an absurdity. And in the same manner it appears to us to be absurd to suppose that the members of the R.I.B.A. would or could have any valid objection to the formation of a joint board on which the various architectural societies and educational authorities were represented in proportion to their importance, for the R.I.B.A. would be the greatest individual factor. We cannot see why the formation of such a board should be objected to by the R.I.B.A. It would be

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MAY 30th. 1924.



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a. Gilbert Scott

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"INK-PHOTO" BY BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON E.C.3

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THE ARCHITECT, MAY 30th, 1924.





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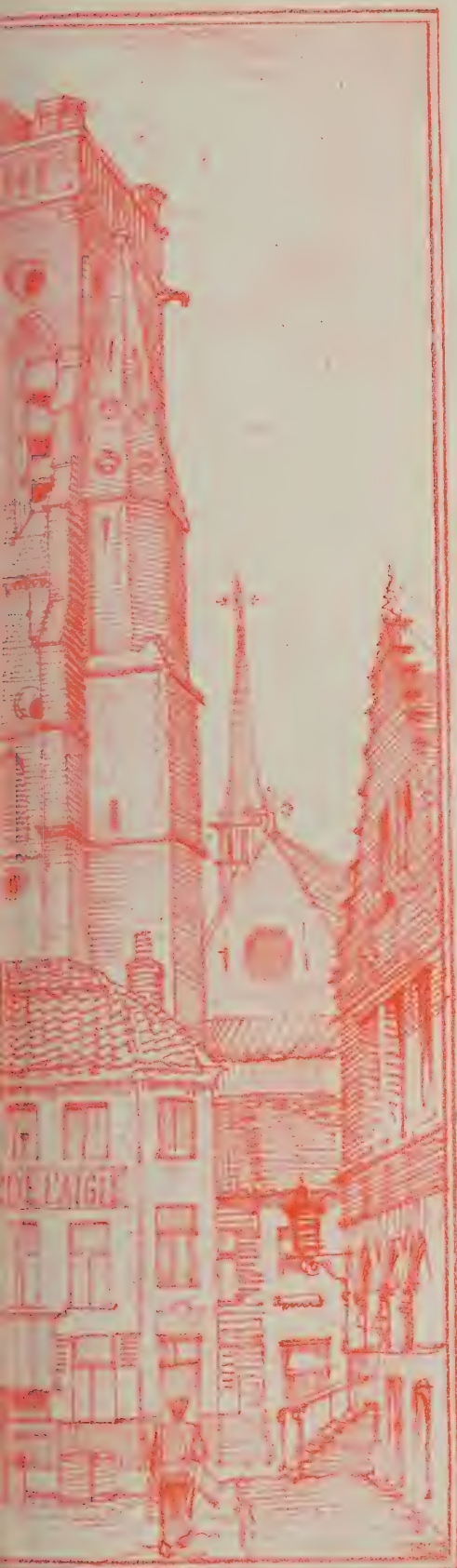
NOTRE DAME DE LA CHAPELLE

BRUSSELS

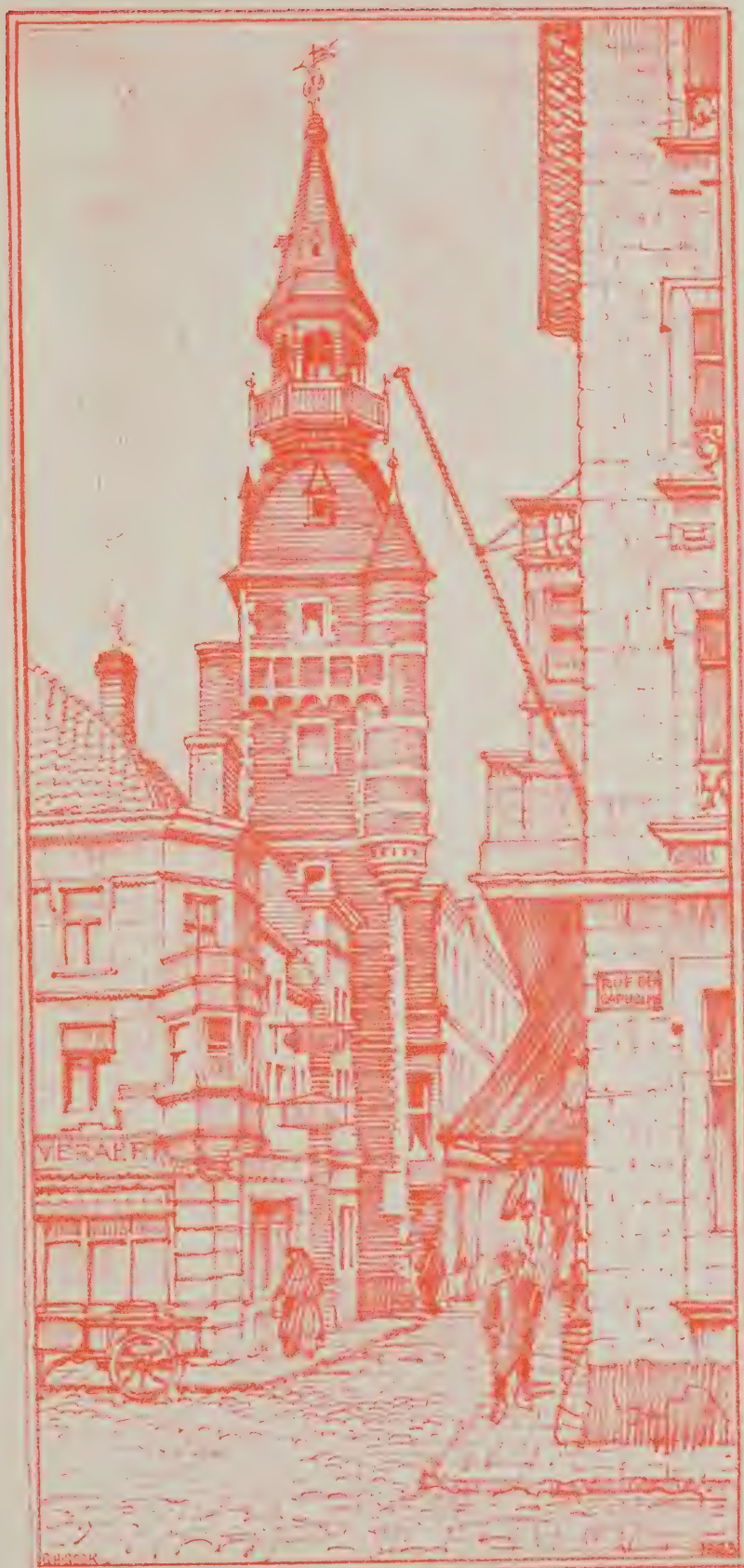


S. NICHOLAS TOWER FROM THE

MAY 30th, 1924.



FURNESS



BELFRY OF THE HOTEL DE VILLE

OSTEND

BY G. H. COOK.

OWN & CO. LTD., 2, BURY COURT, E.C. 2.

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against the interests of any constituent of the board to object to reasonable tests or to allow inefficiency to be hall-marked, and surely this would be the only possible reason for rejection of the principle of a joint board. There would be no great advantage to the R.I.B.A. if it administered the whole scheme; the fees would, it is true, be paid to it, but it would have to provide an extra staff for dealing with additional work.

Our conclusion is that the way to an agreement and the end of all controversy is for the winning party, whichever it may be, to find out the wishes of the electorate on a matter of principle and not of persons, and for the Council of the Institute of 1924-25 to separate the question of Unification from that of Registration.

If this were done we believe that all reasonable men, whatever their individual views were, would be governed by the results obtained by referendum, and that

opposition to the will of the majority would be a negligible factor.

We all desire to end dissension, but that end will not be achieved so long as there seems a possibility that the absolute decision of a majority of the electorate has not been clearly and unmistakably obtained.

We care very little who the members of the next Council are; we care very much that no one in the Institute should have a doubt as to the justice of the decision arrived at, and that being assured we believe everyone will be glad to see the end of strife. Unification of the nature desired by the Council may or may not be desirable, but unification within the ranks of the Institute itself is the first and the greater desideratum. The most difficult of controversies is already half settled if no doubt exists on either side that there is any desire to obtain what is inconsistent with justice and good faith, but the least doubt on either side may vitiate the results of the greatest electoral victory.

Our Illustrations.

NEW COLLIERY OFFICES, THORNCLIFFE, SHEFFIELD. A. GILBERT SCOTT, Architect.

SANTA MARIA, POSCHIAVO.

PENCIL DRAWINGS. By G. H. COOK.

Notes and Comments.

The Humours of the Antipodes.

In the March number of "Building," our Australian contemporary, on p. 37 we are given an illustration of Mr. Herbert Baker's scheme for the Bank of England. But under it is written "Proposed New Banking Premises in New Zealand" (from "New Zealand Building Progress"). We are told that "This is a most ambitious project, combining many graceful and dignified features, but its beauty is detracted from by the mansard roof, for not only does this offer the usual difficulties of treatment, but in this case both it and the storey below look like an after-thought. The classical feeling predominates throughout, and is emphasised by the free and peculiar use of columns. This peculiarity is noticeable in the grouping of the columns on the upper floor, where single columns are placed on the angles and coupled columns in between: obviously the reverse of requirements. The puny pediment over the corner feature does not add to the dignity of the design." We have not compared the rough line drawings with Mr. Baker's design, but it is obviously either a block slipped in the wrong place or else an extraordinary instance of plagiarism. We doubt its being the latter, because New Zealand, flourishing though it is, is hardly likely to need banking premises equal in extent to the Bank of England. Or is it, in the third place, skilful and pointed Australian satire on New Zealand's ambitions? This number of "Building" is in other respects amusing. St. George's Clock Tower, which some of our readers know, is illustrated as an "Artistic Bit of London." "Building" is a curious publication, but if it gives a true representation of architecture in Australia, there is evidently a wide field for educational effort there. But "Building" is broad-minded!

The Exhibition of Modern Architecture at Wembley.

Last Saturday the Council invited a number of Press representatives and critics to luncheon in the Lucullus Restaurant at the Empire Exhibition at Wembley, and the company subsequently inspected the exhibition of modern architecture arranged in the Palace of Arts. For the most part the work shown is familiar to us and to many of our readers, but its scope and interest will doubtless

surprise many members of the general public who have an imperfect knowledge of what has been carried out in our midst during the last thirty years. The exhibition embraces buildings like the Middlesex Guild Hall at Westminster, built many years ago, and Africa House, in Kingsway, which was only recently completed. It is, as might be expected, especially rich in work of a domestic character. It is somewhat unfortunate that in an age when a much larger proportion of people appreciate a well-designed house that exigencies of cost and difficulties of service should render much of what we most desire almost unattainable, but it may be remembered that somewhat similar conditions obtained in the decades which succeeded the Napoleonic wars.

The Wren Society.

Mr. H. Duncan Hendry, A.R.I.B.A., of 43 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, has been appointed Honorary Secretary of the Wren Society in the place of the late Mr. W. Henry Ward, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., and all communications should be sent to him at the above address. It is mainly due to the enthusiasm and energy shown by the late Mr. Ward that the Wren Society has been so successfully organised and a large and influential membership assured. At the same time the Organising Committee recognise that the number of subscribers must be continually increased by new accessions if the Society is to achieve completely its object of setting up a permanent and trustworthy record of Sir Christopher Wren's life and work, and the Honorary Secretary will be pleased, therefore, to send a prospectus to anyone interested. The first publication of the Society will appear this year and will consist of a portfolio of thirty plates from the All Souls Collection of Wren drawings dealing with St. Paul's Cathedral. These publications will be supplied free to members and will not be obtainable through other channels.

A site is to be purchased in Lion Lane, Shottermill, for the erection of a new elementary school for the locality.

A new school is to be built on the Moulscombe housing site by the Brighton Education Committee to accommodate 340 children.

The Llanlarnam Urban District Council have requested the Monmouthshire Education Committee to provide a new school at St. Dial's. The Monmouthshire County Council has requested the architect to submit plans for a new elementary school to be erected at Markham.



MODEL OF THE TOWN HALL IN STOCKHOLM. RAGNAR OSTBERG, Architect. From the Exhibition of Swedish Architecture at the R.I.B.A. Galleries organised by the Architectural Association.



TOWN HALL IN STOCKHOLM. View from the water. RAGNAR OSTBERG, Architect.

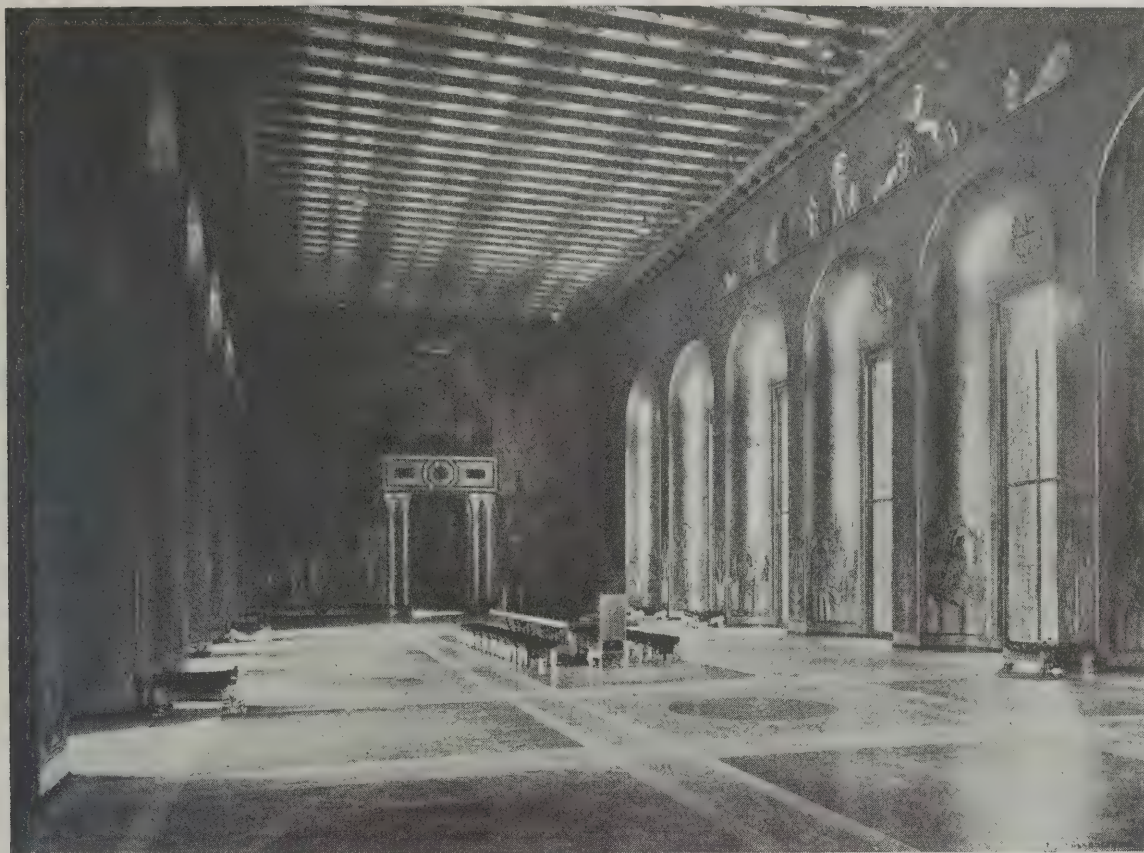
The Sixth Dinner of the Architecture Club.

The Right Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald was the principal guest at the dinner of the Architecture Club held last Friday, and in proposing the toast of Architecture he referred to the various suggestions which had been made to him, one of which was that all public buildings should be faced with tiles, while another urged the advantages of building a bridge over Piccadilly Circus, and others were bothering him about the proposed St. Paul's Bridge. If he discussed such controversies it would be in private, and not in public. The toast he was proposing would be responded to by Mr. Gotch, and he did not know whether Mr. Gotch had been so modest as some writers on architecture who refused to claim that it was the first of the Arts, a claim which he conceded to it. Utility had not in the history of mankind been dissociated from the desire to do something beautiful as well. The first step was taken by a simian gentleman when he broke off a bough to protect his body not only from the sun but because it was the best and most attractive bough of the tree. Historically that simian gentleman was the forerunner of Mr. Gotch. Architecture was not only the forerunner of all the arts, but the most omnipresent of all of them. In other branches men seemed to have Mohamman instincts, they sought and acquired beauty, and then secured it where it would only be seen with difficulty. Other arts were purely individualistic, but he preferred an art which was social.

Every decent man objected to wear ready made clothes; he thought they should not less object to inhabiting houses they had not built. It was to be hoped the architects would adopt revolutionary methods to do away with buildings which he had passed for thirty years without feeling pleasure or delight. He would like to see money spent on dynamite for the destruction of such eyesores. He was not in favour of applying bureaucracy to matters of art, but in leaving the artist to do his untrammelled best.

In responding, Mr. Gotch made a very graceful and appropriate speech. He said all would agree with the Premier's views. In connection with architecture and the Press he would plead for a dignified treatment of the subject free from the taunt of the personal interview or advertisement of either the architect or the materials he used. The best way to interest the public in the subject was to emphasise its human aspects. We quote the following as delivered as it is admirably to the point and could not, without loss, be abbreviated:—

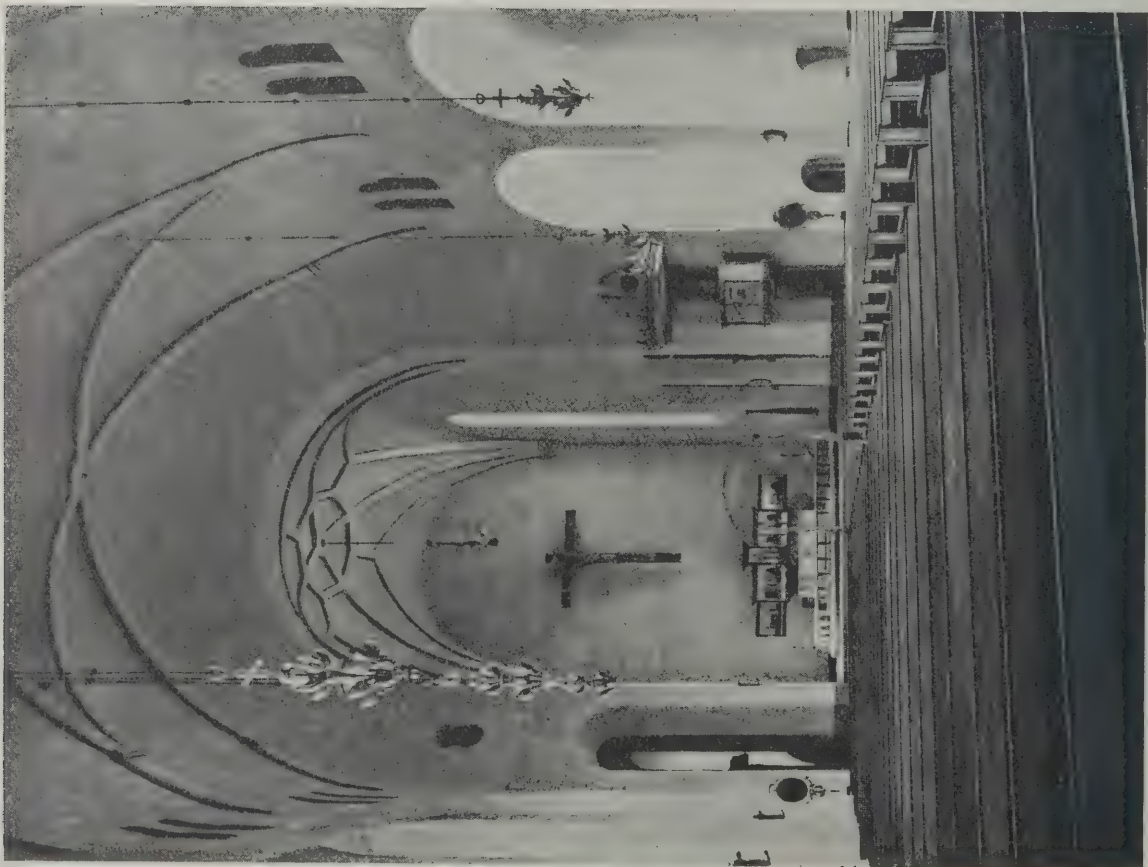
"The worshippers in Gothic cathedrals were not drawn to them by pure reason, or by a desire to have their intellectual doubts resolved, but by worship to be paid to some great uncomprehended power, by joy to be expressed, by grief to be assuaged, by guilt to be confessed and pardoned upon terms. And so these buildings produced in mankind, according to his



INTERIOR VIEW.

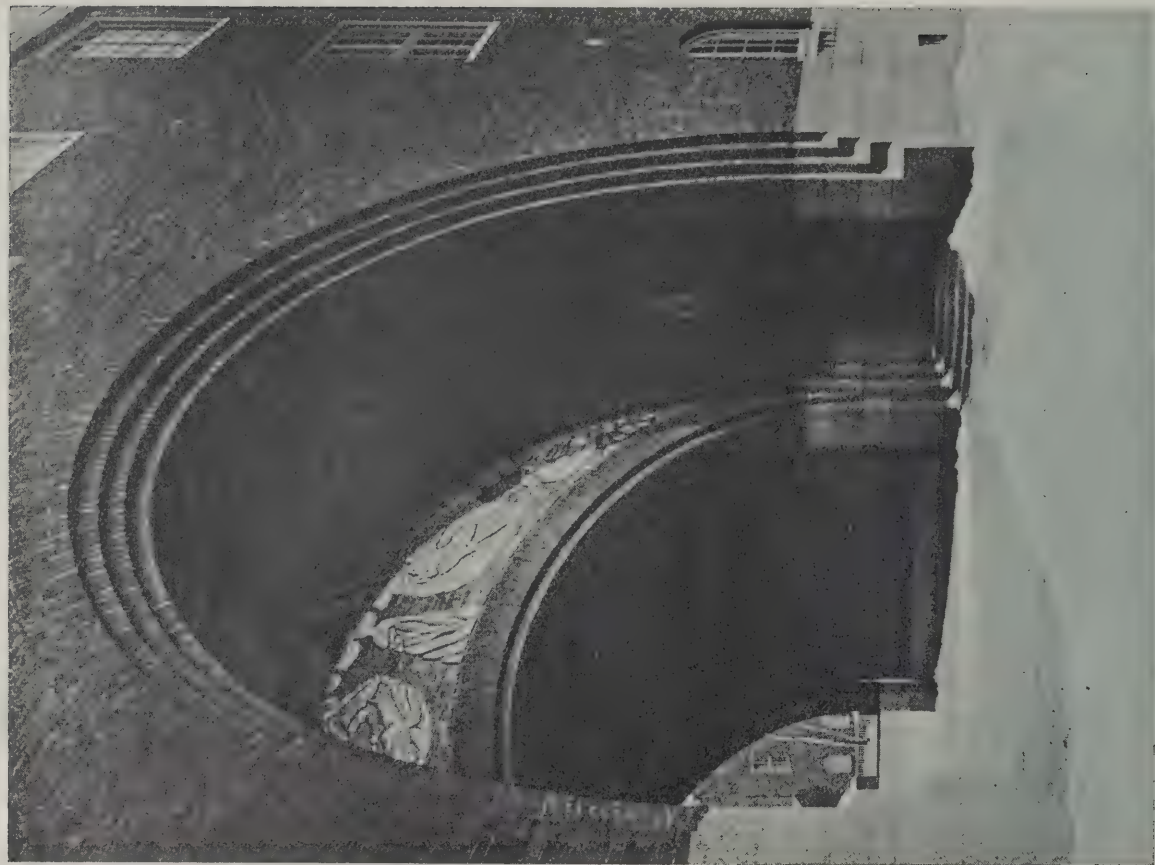


TOWN HALL IN STOCKHOLM. THE COLONNADE. RAGNAR OSTBERG, Architect.
From the Exhibition of Swedish Architecture at the R.I.B.A. Galleries organised by the Architectural Association.



INTERIOR OF THE HOGALID CHURCH, STOCKHOLM.
IVAR TENGBOOM, Architect.

From the Exhibition of Swedish Architecture at the R.I.B.A. Galleries, 9, Conduit Street, W. Organised by the Architectural Association.



THE ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE.
ERIK LALLERSTEDT, Architect.



MODEL OF THE CHURCH OF MASTHUGGET, GOTHENBURG. SIGFRID ERICSON, Architect.

mood, now unspeakable awe, now exhortation of spirit, peace of mind, or suggestions of mystery beyond human knowledge. They followed no strict rules of proportion; here they were narrow and lofty, there they were broad and low; here they soared to heights incalculable, there they stretched out into infinite perspective. But emotions could become exhausted. Europe, wanting a fresh stimulus, proved restless, and then came that great awakening which was termed the Renaissance. Knowledge now strove within us; the mind furnished the heart; the mind kept the emotions in check. No longer was architecture to be subjected to a kind of inspired fancy. Under the guidance of devotees filled with a knowledge of ancient Classic architecture, she submitted herself to strict rules of proportion, to the symmetrical arrangement of her features, to a carefully calculated striving after lofty ideals. Her appeal was indeed to the intellect rather than to the emotions, which found their outlet in more mundane channels. From that very fleeting glimpse of architecture in one of its human aspects, he might pass to a brief glance at one of the directions in which it had complied with

human needs. Probably they all knew of some tower built upon a crag or poised upon a ridge. But the romance or desolation of such buildings formed no part of the original conceptions; those buildings, which were the homes of our ancestors, were placed in their positions for the purpose of security and the same purpose controlled their appearance, which was very little more than a mass of masonry. Their chief concern was to get a home which would offer determined resistance against attack, and for centuries that need dominated the architecture of the house. But as law and order grew the need for protection grew less until it almost vanished in the time of Elizabeth. So the mansions of Elizabeth's time were full of windows, and they stretched themselves abroad. They cast away defence as of primary importance, and, in the words of Sir Thomas More, their size and arrangement were directed to increased refinement. Sometimes the houses of the time were a tribute to the Queen herself and to the desire to house her adequately on her numerous progresses. Then those mansions of Elizabeth's time flee from our vision; their great



MODEL OF THE SWEDISH CHURCH IN CHRISTIANIA. LARS WAHLMAN, Architect.



MODEL OF THE CARLANDER-HOSPITAL, GOTHENBERG. ARVID BJERKE, Architect.

gables, their long parapets, their huge chimneys, their mullioned windows disappear into thin air, and the picture emerged of a great house with two outlying wings. Its columned portico, its sash windows, its colonnades produced a vista which struck the beholder with wonder and admiration—and well it might, for that was one of the mansions of Queen Anne's nobles, for whom the world was made and the fulness thereof. At a respectful distance, set within a rural garden or placed hard on some street as it left a country town, was a red brick house, modest yet substantial. This was a development of architecture consequent upon the definite emergence of the middle classes, an emergence marked by an increase in the number of merchants and maiden ladies of independent means, who all housed themselves in such ways. A whole gallery of similar pictures might be drawn, some with fuller colour, some subtler in detail, but all showing how architecture had always reflected social changes, and how behind its grave and impassive front there was an abiding and vivid human interest."

After the Chairman had said a few words, the toast of "The Club" was proposed by Mr. George Whale and responded to by Mr. R. M. Barrington-Ward.

Mr. Squires, the President of the Architecture Club, who presided over the dinner, touched lightly on the objects of the Club, and in this connection we would compliment it with the progress made, though we feel that the work will be long and arduous and that the Club can hardly be said to have progressed beyond the very early stages of the programme they have set themselves to accomplish. If we reflect upon the events of last Friday, friends met friends and journalists and editors were introduced to members of the Club and the architectural profession, and possibly much personal and individual benefit will arise out of these meetings and introductions. But these personal affairs form only a very minor part of the main objects

of the Club, which may be stated shortly to be an endeavour and determination to interest the popular Press and through it the general public in all things appertaining to architecture and the greater appreciation of beautiful buildings.

The principal guest, we have stated, was the Prime Minister, and the organisers are to be complimented in having secured Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's interest and consent to be present. But the Club and the objects of the Club must be satisfied if the net result of last Friday's gathering formed but the frame around the personality and speech of the Prime Minister. One glance at the Press table during the very able speech of Mr. Alfred Gotch, President of the R.I.B.A., would have disclosed the fact that the public Press representatives had departed and that only the technical Press remained to take note of the proceedings. We are well aware of the circumstances that influence this unfortunately unsatisfactory state of affairs. And whilst we have no wish to belittle the enterprise of the Club, all those interested in its welfare—and we count ourselves amongst these—were able to realise the enormous task that it has before it and the continual hammering work that will have to be done before any appreciable change can be accomplished. The editors of the popular Press journals are responsible for the departure after the Prime Minister's speech. They are imbued with one idea only, and everything must bow before the news interest value. And architecture is to-day considered by the majority as only of third rate interest. Members of the profession of architecture have over and over again been obliged to realise the predominating consideration which fills the minds of the public Press editors when a new building has been opened. The building which has taken many months to erect is ignored, and the notable individual who performs the ceremony and the crowd of guests and general public are photographed and illustrated; the chief contractor possibly and the clerk of works have inset photo-



MODEL OF THE PALACE OF JUSTICE, STOCKHOLM. CARL WESTMAN, Architect.

From the Swedish Architecture Exhibition in the R.I.B.A. Galleries, 9, Conduit Street, W.1. Organised by the Architectural Association.



MODEL OF THE HOGALID CHURCH, STOCKHOLM.
IVAR TENGBOM, Architect.

graphs included in the review. The architect can consider himself fortunate if his name is mentioned anywhere.

The Architecture Club would therefore be well advised to recognise the chief difficulty they are called upon to face, and devise and organise every means to create a news interest in architecture which will attract the editors of the popular Press. These editors are possibly very tired of this paramount standard of quality, and have individually and possibly collectively a very high appreciation of architecture and its influences on the whole community; and the Club would do well to realise that these men are men of education, their judgment is founded upon a lifelong study of the class of people who are interested in their respective journals, and the news interest and human touch are far and away greater in the minds of nearly all of us than the artistic interest.

Correspondence

[The Editor will not be responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

Art Education.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—In your last issue you gave a letter on the above subject signed by "City Architect." I would very much appreciate your including in your this week's issue my reply.

How any father can have any hesitation on such a matter as Art Education is to me quite incomprehensible. The present phase cannot last, and even should it outlive our time those who follow its dictates should be equipped so that they sincerely paint impressions with a true knowledge of form and colour. To leave a young man who has natural gifts utterly untrained just because he seems to produce pictures apparently similar to the present-day impressionists is in my opinion little short of a crime. Many paintings are being exhibited to-day as the finished efforts of well-known French impressionists who have passed away. Were they able to exercise any influence on the promoters of these exhibitions they would most undoubtedly declare that many of the paintings shown are truly impressions painted for

the purpose of retaining the inspirations of the moment as much as possible for future study and personal use. Many of the paintings are truly only studies and should be exhibited as such and not as the finished representations of an impression. All the members of the impressionistic school that have any hope of obtaining public appreciation paint with a very accurate knowledge of the realistic. To leave a young man to shift for himself without giving him every opportunity to acquire a sound knowledge of the subject is as logical as to remove a bright child from the ordinary schools. Impressionistic painting can only be true and sound if it is sincere and emanates from a mind that possesses knowledge and is convinced that this form of expression is correct. —Yours, etc.,

ART MASTER.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—The letter by "City Architect" in your last issue is timely as it draws attention to a subject which must puzzle many parents when confronted with the question of where to send a son to receive instruction in art. "City Architect" has only to recall the great names of the past to realise that mere individualism in art is not to be commended. The great masters all formed a connecting link in the evolution of progress. Unfortunately the art schools of to-day are mostly too busy turning out elementary art teachers to consider the serious teaching of art. The diplomas are mostly worthless because of the low standard required to secure them, and otherwise students not training for teachers are allowed far too much latitude in the matter of study. A student should have his attention directed to the serious study of structure, design, composition, anatomy and colour, and not be asked or allowed to paint pictures until he has learned the craft of drawing and painting. The painting of impressions is only for the trained and mature mind, and the too early indulging in this only leads to a sloppy, superficial style which prevents real progress and leads to barrenness and sterility in later life. If "City Architect" can find a school where the real fundamentals of art are taught without modern sloppiness he should certainly send his son to such a school. Phil May, who was self taught, deplored the years spent in acquiring knowledge which he could have acquired in two sessions under a good teacher. The advance of psychology has affected all departments of life, but in art it is only the mature mind which can give valuable impressions which seem to the beginner to be devoid of accurate drawing and scholarly detail. The work of all the great masters, to name a few, Leonardo, Michael Angelo, Botticelli, Rembrandt, Holbein, Velasquez, Titian, Tintoretto, convey more powerful impressions because of the soundness of their drawing design, anatomy, composition and colour; and the work of such men as Corot and Whistler is great because of their long study and analysis of the details of nature. It is to be hoped that what has been said will not confuse "City Architect" further, but it is clear that the way to achievement in art is not through wayward personal experiment but by disciplined study. The trouble is to find the ideal art school.—I am, yours faithfully.

Edinburgh,

May 24, 1924.

ARTES HONORABIT.

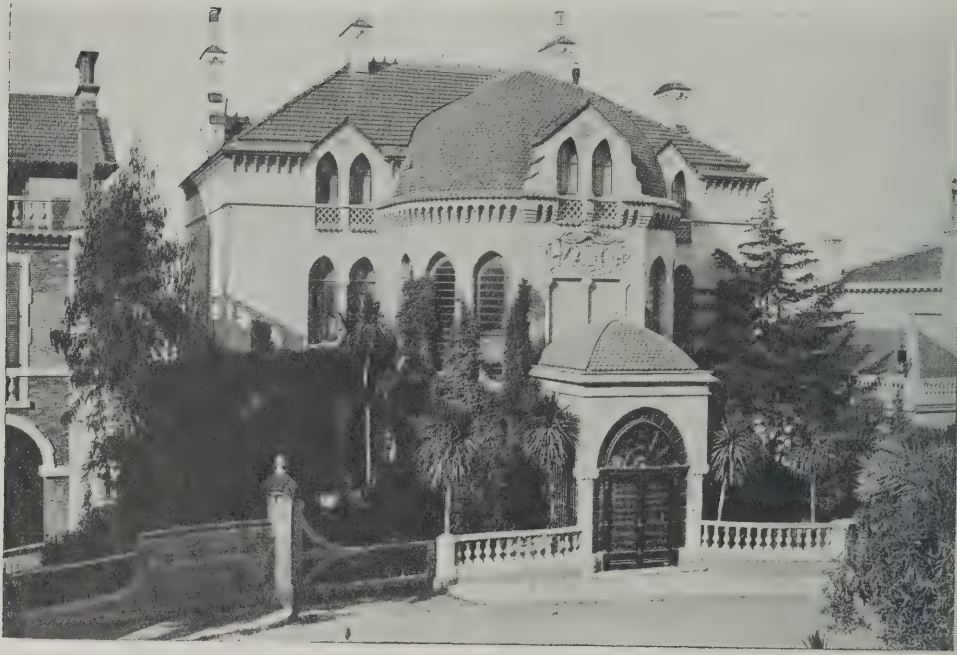
Competition News.

Barrow-upon-Soar Housing Scheme and the Salford Baths and Wash-house Competitions.—The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of Members and Licentiates to the fact that the conditions of the above competitions are not in accordance with the Regulations of the R.I.B.A. The Competitions Committee are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime Members and Licentiates are advised to take no part in the competition.

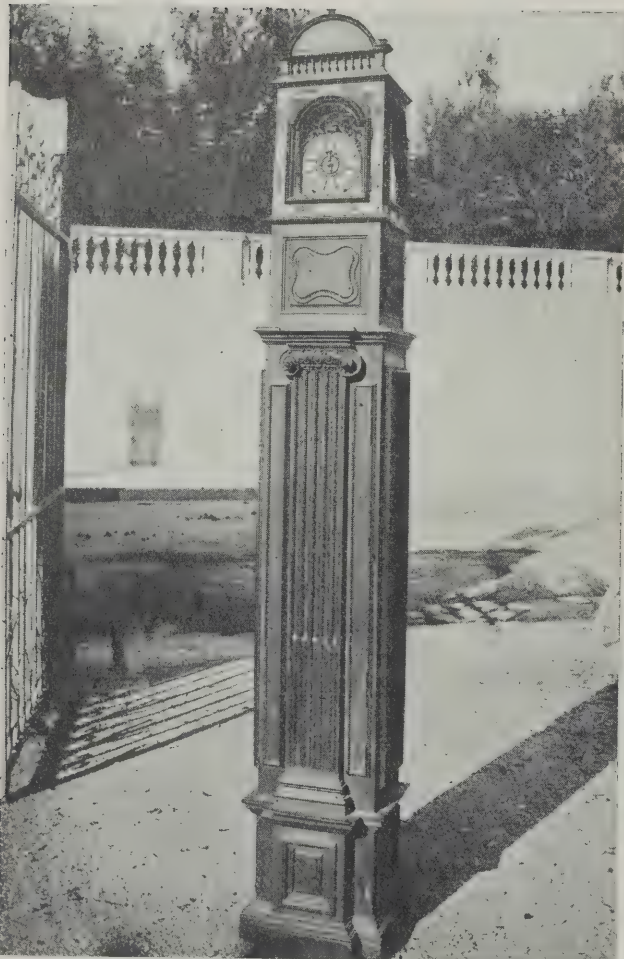
The Committee of the Harrogate Infirmary invites designs in competition from architects practising in Great Britain for the extension of the infirmary by the addition of 67 beds. The Committee, acting on the advice of the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, has appointed Mr. S. D. Kitson, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., as assessor. Premiums of 150, 100 and 50 guineas will be awarded to the designs placed first, second and third in the competition by the assessor, and the author of the design placed first will be employed as architect for the extension, subject to the conditions set forth in the instructions to competitors. Applications for conditions of the competition, accompanied by a cheque for £2 2s., should be made to Mr. G. Ballantyne, secretary, The Infirmary, Harrogate, by May 31. This deposit will be returned on receipt of a bona fide design, or if the conditions are returned to the Secretary within one month of their issue. All designs must reach the Secretary by September 30.

Riviera Villa Architecture.—II.

By Francis Miltoun Mansfield.



VILLA SAGAN, CANNES.



CLOCK TOWER AT ENTRANCE VILLA MADRID, CANNES.

A charming accessory detail is the clock tower of the Villa Madrid at Cannes, but inexplicable nevertheless as is the *miradora* of the Villa Argentine at Saint Raphael. The driveway and the clock tower add something to the Cannes villa, though it is not recent as to construction. The idea seems plausible enough, but for the life of one there is no adequate excuse for its being. It is incon-

ceivable that the Mayor of Cannes, who lives there, or his guests, travel in hired taxis, so what matter as to the precise minute as to when the gate-post is turned. Another incoherent fantasy!

Those who have stuck to the primitive have done well. *Lou Casteu*, belonging to Lord Ashcomb, at Valescure, is something that was built under the influence of a resounding echo of the voice of the monkish builders of old, who lined this Riviera coast with a magnificent battery of conventual establishments. It speaks the language of the Mediterranean, and is wholly appealing. It is, within and without (we say nothing of the furnishings) altogether charming, and withal strong and masculine, not the least frivolous.

The neighbouring Chateau Aurelian, sitting hard by the old Aurelian Way as it crosses southern Gaul, a part of the old Roman aqueduct rearing its massive pillars within its park, and delightful enough within and without in a close-up is wholly livable. Not so much can be said of the half-breed Chateau de la Napoule, now in the possession of a transatlantic banker.

An ecstatic little house—*La Pausa*—is the last built by that versatile couple, the Williamsons, who wrote so many novels of a Riviera setting. It sits *mi-cote* in an olive orchard on a promontory above Cap Martin, with a far-off look to Italy on one hand and to Monte Carlo's Rock on the other. It, too, is a hybrid, but saved by its unpretentiousness carrying in its warp and woof many personal fantasies of the owner, besides which it has a guest-house in the garden—a guest-house instead of a guest-room or a guest-wing. The term explains itself. It is an idea to be further adopted, as well elsewhere as here in this terrestrial paradise. I know of one other at Saint Raphael, rather less well situated but offering the same advantages of enabling your guest to have a few moments in peace to himself—and perhaps yourself likewise.

The box-like pavilion, sometimes bizarre in form, sometimes classic, appears here and there on the Caillornie hill at Cannes, along the Corniche d'Or or at Cap Martin. Often expressing no particular order and lacking a certain comfort born of spaciousness, it represents a type of dwelling which is disappearing, at least is being no longer built, the "guests of Hercules," who would put up with such a restricted movement preferring either the out-and-out hotel life or that of an apartment in one or another of the big barracks of modernity facing sunwise which are being erected at Nice and roundabout.



VILLA GARNIER ON BORDIGHERA ROAD.

The most spacious of these pavilions, and that best known, is Eilenroc at Cap Martin. It has some splendour of line, if not magnificence, and while out of date and nothing particularly Mediterraneanlike, it sits proudly on its terrace and lends a certain classic dignity to its setting of waving palms and the distant blue sea framed by porphyry red rock.

The pergola idea is not so often seen as might be expected, though there must be countless hidden away off the high road. Where they flank the roadway they are mostly for effect, hung about with bougainvillea, overgrown with mimosa or flanked by the laurier-rose.

They hardly serve the purpose intended, but are an effort to give something in keeping with climatic and geographical conditions. They fit, and that is a great deal in an architectural accessory. The peristyle and verandah have been more highly developed. It is proper that they should be. The verandah is usually semi-enclosed with glass, sometimes wholly glazed, reached usually from the garden walk by a monumental stairway climbing up over the sub-basement, as may be seen in any one of a thousand villas which one encounters on this marvellous coast of blue running from Toulon to Vintimille.

The roof-top terrace is seldom seen, which is not readily explained, as many are the conditions under which it might be made use of. Often there is a terrace, narrow or wide, usually without awning or roof overhead, surrounding the first floor and covering the sub-basement. The body of the villa, if it be not of sizeable dimensions, and the invariable square tower—each with wide overhanging eaves—stick up rather incongruously, but in spite of this criticism of its unæsthetic exterior silhouette it is not to be gainsaid that the view from within looking out, or from the terrace gazing at a Mediterranean sunset over the Maures or the

Esterel will help much the owner to forget, if indeed he ever gave it a thought, how ludicrous his demure other-wife often appears to the passer-by with a soul above the alphabet stage of what architectural beauty should consist.

To sum up: Much luxury and some ugliness contemporary with the ugly period of plush furniture, green rep and the "citizen king" is here. There is little reason for precipitately tearing anything down even to give place to something better for all serves, after a fashion, at least to the extent that it fills the French formula of "closed and covered." What is really called for is more of the better sort when new structures are built, or big barracks of *meubles*, where one rents a room or a dozen under the name of an apartment. To-day these *meubles* and the big hotels are the newest notes of punctuation among the verdure of background rocks and olive groves and palms and the streets and boulevards of the shore cities and towns.

The villa, *per se*, is not disappearing but is not reproducing itself so rapidly as to fill the demand, and what is coming into being is often as bereft of grace and genuineness as its predecessors. The Germans are fewer on the Riviera than formerly, but the influence of their architectural conceptions—their style *belinos* or *munchos*—are still impregnating the atmosphere with *banhof* motifs, whereas the Roman, Moorish or even Greek stands a much better chance of taking root as a transplantation should.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

MAY 30, 1874.

SIR GILBERT SCOTT ON SCOTTISH ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE.

On the next day Sir Gilbert addressed the following letter to some of the Edinburgh papers.

SIR,—Finding it necessary to shorten the lecture or address I gave last evening on the Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland, I inadvertently omitted what was, perhaps, the most important thing I had to say, which was this:—

The magnificent remains with which this country is interspersed—works of as noble architecture and as admirable architectural detail as any country can show—are not only, for the most part, in ruins, but are so rapidly giving way to decay that in a few more years it will, in very many cases, become impossible that the details of their architecture can be understood. They have been illustrated generally by picturesque views, as by the admirably graphic drawings of Mr. Billings; but very few indeed of them—none, I think, of the ruined remains—have been illustrated by actual measured engravings, drawn to a scale, with sections of the mouldings and such other representations as are essential to make their architecture intelligible, and to perpetuate their design after the works themselves shall have perished.

What should we think if it were said of the architectural remains of ancient Rome or of Athens that picturesque views of them would suffice? What should we know of their architecture if Stewart, and Penrose, and Degodetz and others had not perpetuated it on paper in all its details? Then, why should we rest satisfied while Jedburgh, and St. Andrews, and Arbroath, and Elgin, and Dunblane, and a host of other monuments as precious to ourselves as the remains of Athens or of Rome, lie perishing in hopeless ruin, and no authentic representations of their invaluable details exist?

While we are talking of it, they are perishing grain by grain; and if we do not interpose promptly their architecture will be a thing of the past!

I have strongly pressed this work on a man better fitted for it than any I know—Mr. Robert Anderson, architect, of Edinburgh, and he is willing to undertake it if sufficiently supported; for no man would undertake a work of such labour and expenditure at his own risk.

Mr. Anderson has already a great store of measured drawings by him, in which, for his own study and pleasure, he has represented with minute accuracy both the general architecture and the details of many of these mouldering remains of ancient Scottish art. What is necessary to enable him to carry out this all-important undertaking is the support of the nobility, the men of wealth, and the learned societies of Scotland. It is a patriotic work, and one which every Scotchman who has the means should do what lies in his power to aid and encourage; and I take this means of bringing it under the notice both of the Scottish and English public, in full hope and confidence that it will be taken up in proportion to its claims, and that time will not be permitted further to pass by without some efficient means being taken to remedy this very sad omission.

I am, etc., GEO. GILBERT SCOTT.



VILLA LON CASTEN, VALESCURE.

We regret that in the first part published in our issue of February 15th, the author's name was incompletely given and should have been printed Francis Miltoun Mansfield, instead of Francis Miltoun.



No. 1 GROSVENOR CRESCENT, A SMALL DRAWING ROOM. DEANE & BRADDELL, Architects.

Town Planning Schemes for Small Towns

By C. J. F. Atkinson, LL.B., Otley, Yorks.

One of the most pressing problems of local government is the development of towns which are changing from the semi-rural to the industrial or residential stage. All over the country old market towns in picturesque surroundings are being transformed into commercial or suburban centres. Trade is attracted there by cheaper land, more plentiful water, and other conditions. Improving transport and the absence of smoke bring them into favour with people who prefer to live away from the crowded conditions of the large cities.

In the North of England great cities are, in many cases, approaching the limits of their growth. Indeed several county boroughs would have shown a decrease in population on the 1921 census if they had not extended their boundaries within the previous ten years. Both population and industry tend to move out to the smaller places round the great centres. The process is quickened by the fact that these great centres have too often developed in an ill-regulated and depressingly ugly manner.

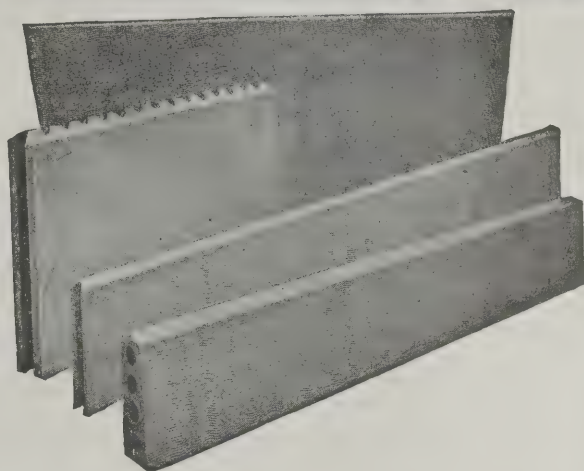
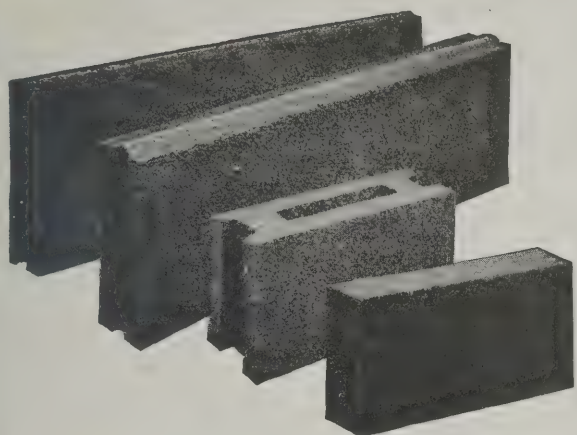
It is most important that the expansion of the small towns should avoid the mistakes which, half a century ago, disfigured the large ones. The first requirement is thoughtful town-planning so as to control new developments. It is sometimes objected that this is waste labour because much of the development which is planned may never take effect in the present generation. This is as unsound as delaying to insure a building because it may be a long time before it will get on fire. Every town in England has its sad record of opportunities missed—of civic "what might have beens." Town-planning is merely the foresight which insures against the repetition of past losses. The development of a town is so important from the moral and human point of view that it cannot be left to the chance of the property market—it must be controlled in the interests of the inhabitants generally. When once a town-planning scheme has been prepared, any building which contravenes it will be erected by the owner at his own risk and with the knowledge

that it may at any time have to be removed without any compensation. How many thousands of pounds have had to be spent by British municipalities in buying up, for street improvements, buildings which would never have been erected if only some scheme of this character had been in existence? The old wasteful method was to prepare an improvement plan after a town had been built up. The modern and only sound method is to prepare the improvement plan first, whilst the land is open, and then require the buildings to follow it. That is the central idea of town-planning.

I speak from the experience of a town which existed as a country market centre for 900 years and then began to change. Local industries sprang up in remarkable variety. The population rose from 3,000 to 10,000. New houses sprang up and were built with a dangerous freedom from control. Beautiful sites were disfigured by closely-packed rows of dwellings. The land was chiefly held by small owners, and building proceeded by crushing as many little houses as possible in each little plot which came into the market, without any co-ordination with the adjoining property, with very little regard for health and no regard for beauty. The result was a patchwork of ill-connected streets interwoven with century-old slums—but all surrounded by one of the finest landscapes in the North of England. Within a stone's throw of open pastures houses would be crammed on to sites (including streets) of 100 square yards each—mostly with their backs to the sun. At one period it seemed to be a recognised diversion for speculators to secure land in any of the pleasant residential quarters of the town, and then hold the adjoining owner to ransom by threatening to block his front view by backyards unless he would buy out at a profit. By this unsportsmanlike process property was sometimes reduced to an inconvertible condition and the owners demoralised.

The methods of town-planning a small place like this are in many respects different from those which would be applied in a great city. Sweeping methods would fail, deservedly, by arous-

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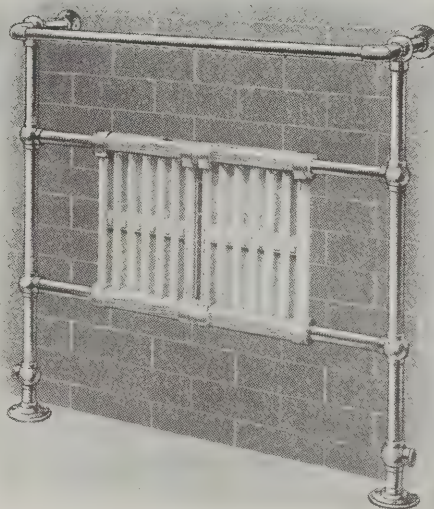
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ing opposition from interests which would have a fair claim to protection. It would have been impossible, for instance, to prescribe absolutely which land should be laid out for industry and which for residence. The whole area was too small, and the lines of commercial expansion as yet too uncertain, for dictating details of this kind. It was necessary to avoid anything which would discourage industry. Thus no elaborate zoning could be attempted. On the other hand, there was little difficulty in scheduling land for open spaces, and one enlightened owner so far responded to the spirit of the scheme as to present the largest part of the area so dealt with as a recreation ground.

Our scheme was very simple as compared with those of larger towns. Its two main objects were firstly to provide improved means of communication both through the town and from one part of the town to another; and, secondly, to control the future building of houses so that the people who come to live in them would do so under pleasant and human conditions.

In laying out arterial roads for through traffic, we sought, so far as possible, to make them round, instead of through the thickly populated parts of the district. For instance, there is a large amount of non-local traffic from Leeds on the south-east to various places on the west. At present this passes into the town and out of it by several awkward angles. Our plan carries a new road through vacant land on the south of the town, which can be laid out without disturbing more than one or two buildings. When this road is made the through traffic will pass more quickly by a shorter route and the shopping streets of the town will be relieved of many dangers. Incidentally, the point duties of the police will be greatly relieved.

The first great detail of the scheme is that the density of new houses is reduced to 16 per acre inclusive of streets and open spaces. In other words, each house will have at least 300 square yards (gross) of land, or three times as much as was previously given. On the other hand, the extra land allowed for each house may not be left as an unsightly desert or rubbish-tip. The gardens and yards must be kept in such a state as not to be a nuisance or annoyance to neighbours or persons using the highways. It is hardly necessary to add that back roads are abolished. They were a common feature of the Victorian building estates, but they destroyed privacy, wasted a great deal of land, cost large amounts of money to construct, and were of no real use when done. Long unlovely streets of houses are made impossible by a rule that not more than six houses may be built in a row without a break. The old iniquity of joint sanitary accommodation is also prohibited—each house must have separate provision.

The dreadful disfigurement caused by the modern horror of advertisement is also safeguarded. No building, hoarding or device may be fixed or used so as to interfere with the amenity of the area. Of course, this does not prohibit the exhibition on shops or factories of the occupier's own name and business.

Any expansion or repetition of offensive trades is absolutely prohibited except with the consent of the Council.

In a plan for a small town it is not practicable to "zone" the district by marking out certain land for residences, other parts for shops, and others for factories, but a reasonable amount of control is reserved by providing that shops and other buildings can be erected only with the consent of the Council.

Again, building lines are prescribed, but it is realised that they cannot be fixed for ever—they must be to some extent elastic, so as to meet varying circumstances and times, so the Council are given power to sanction the erection of buildings in front of building lines, where they consist of factories or groups of not less than three shops, or where the levels of the site render such sanction advisable.

In many small towns the problem of planning is rendered more difficult by the fact that land is distributed amongst many small owners. If the owner of each little field or plot lays out his land from his own point of view only, the result will be a series of dead-ends. It is necessary that the lay-out of each plot should be co-ordinated with the adjoining land. So, whenever any new street plan is presented, the Council have power to require the owners of any land, the development of which may be effected, to furnish a plan for a general scheme for the development of the whole combined site. Again, these small plots are so often interlaced with one another that it is impossible to lay them out satisfactorily unless the boundaries can be adjusted. Occasionally the owners concerned are far-seeing enough to arrange these matters by give-and-take exchanges. More often local jealousies or family feuds stand in the way, and there is a deadlock unless some authority can intervene and compel the parties to accommodate one another. For this purpose the Council have power to require that boundaries shall be altered by exchanges of land, on terms to be fixed by agreement if possible, but, failing that, by an arbitrator appointed by the Ministry. Any legal difficulties about conveying the

exchanged parts are avoided by a provision that land received in exchange is to be held on the same trusts or other conditions as the land given in its place, just as if it had originally been part of the estate to which it is added.

It is to be regretted that up to the present the municipality has no power to interfere with regard to the architectural appearance of buildings. Many growing small towns suffer agony at the hands of builders with much money and little taste. The most thoughtful planning may find its best work undone by vulgar blatancy on the part of one thoughtless owner. Not only such commercial buildings as are designed from mistaken motive of over-advertisement, but some of the freak dwellings brought forth by modern subsidies have grossly offended in this respect. It is to be hoped that before long local Councils will have the power to suspend the approval of building plans which seem to them to be open to this objection, and to refer the question to an independent architectural authority, who should have a constitutionally guarded right of veto.

One word of warning ought to be added as to the danger in small towns of spoiling the plan by timidity and so-called sympathy—which is often unkind in the long run. Efficiency is always the greatest kindness in the end, though men of weak knees and short views will often call it hardship. These plans are made for the long future and a bold policy is the only sound one. Whilst every reasonable effort should be made to meet the difficulties of individuals (who, of course, in small towns are usually the neighbours of the Councillors), a personal grievance should never be allowed to mar a general scheme.

In giving the general features of a scheme of town planning for a small town, I have omitted formal and legal clauses and have mentioned only the parts which are of human interest. Here I would enter a plea for the human point of view in administering schemes of this kind. The history and associations of the district should be kept in mind when a town plan is being prepared. Any honourable pride in their town which is cherished by the people should be fostered. It would be a gross moral mistake to look upon a town plan as merely the laying out of so many acres of land, and to assume that a geographical diagram and a pamphlet of legal regulations are all that need be thought about. These serve their own useful purpose, but the highest mathematics of the surveyor and the subtlest phrasing of the clerk will only give the dry bones of the true body of the town plan. The power of imagination must add flesh to these bones, by realising the position of the men and women who will live and work, and especially the children who will grow up, in the streets and spaces we are working out. It would be a great calamity if all plans followed the same stereotyped lines. Local colour is always worth preserving, local sentiment is often healthy. Our people as yet do not dislike the ugly as much as we hope they will do some day, but they usually prefer the beautiful when they have the chance to realise its worth. Whenever possible the old features of a town, if they have any artistic merit or historic interest, should not be destroyed. Any feature of natural beauty should not be "improved" upon any more than can be helped. The road to work and the road to school have often been allowed to remain uninviting because they are known by everybody who uses them—but there is good reason enough for making these familiar walks as pleasant as we can. In many an industrial town the only public place kept with any regard to beauty is the cemetery. When we devise the plans of our future towns, some share of the beautiful and the graceful should surely be provided for the living.

Those readers of this article who have made a study of town-planning questions will perhaps accuse me of writing commonplace with which they are quite familiar. I admit the charge, and confess that I have done so on purpose. I hope that this article may be read by many who are not yet experts, but who really want to know what use a town plan could be to a small town which cannot afford great ambitions. Many a good hard-working Councillor thinks that these things are "not for the likes of us." I hope that I have succeeded in showing that these schemes are within the reach of every little town in the land, and that the little town, with its growing possibilities, may profit by them more, indeed, needs them more, than the great cities.

The Hemsworth Rural District Council are asking for tenders for the erection of 40 houses at South Hiendley, 30 houses at Havercroft and 30 houses at Little Houghton.

The Wellington Urban Council have accepted the tender of Messrs. Eadie Towers & Co., of Wolverhampton, for the erection of 28 houses in the central part of the town at a cost of £430 per house.

It is estimated that the proposed erection and equipment of the new secondary school at Cumberland Road, West Ham, will cost over £27,000.



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General News.

A new police station is to be erected in Castle Street, Barnstaple.

Messrs. Dodge & Reid, architects, have been asked by the Brentford Board of Guardians to prepare plans for a male observation ward at the infirmary.

A nurses' home is to be erected by the Blackburn Board of Guardians at a cost of £24,588.

Plans have been submitted to the Leicester Corporation in connection with a proposal for the erection of a new central fire station with staff accommodation.

The Tynemouth Hospital, which it is proposed to erect at Moor Park, is estimated to cost £50,000.

Mr. S. D. Adshead, architect, has been retained by the Worthing Corporation in connection with various improvements which include the erection of a new concert pavilion and bandstand.

London County Council.

Concrete Houses at £250.

Asked whether his attention had been drawn to the statement of the Minister of Health that he would concur in any proposals submitted by local authorities for erecting a small number of concrete houses on an American principle at £250 per house, and whether it was proposed to submit any such proposals to the Minister, Col. Levita (Chairman of the Housing Committee) stated at a meeting of the L.C.C. that no plan was at present available in this country for carrying out this particular American system of mass production, nor had any such houses been built here.

Thames Bridges.

Sir John Gilbert stated, in reply to a question, that the General Purposes Committee had decided to recommend the Council to appoint a Special Commission of Inquiry to investigate the whole question of the adequacy and condition of bridges over the Thames within the administrative county and formulate a general policy on the subject. It was proposed to invite the City Corporation to collaborate with the Council and appoint half the members of the Commission.

Later in the proceedings Sir Howell Williams moved that in view of the urgency and necessity for additional bridges over the Thames, particularly at the junction of the Strand and Waterloo Bridge, and the remoteness of any scheme for dealing with Charing Cross Bridge, the Improvements and Highways Committees be instructed to report on the advisability of erecting a new bridge from the Eastern end of Aldwych as a continuation of the Kingsway improvement.

Sir John Gilbert gave an undertaking that the points raised by Sir Howell Williams would be considered both by the Improvements Committee of the Council and the proposed Commission of Inquiry. On this undertaking, Sir Howell withdrew his motion.

Schools.

The Altrincham Education Committee propose to erect an open-air school in Dunham Park. The County Architect has been requested to prepare plans and estimates.

A new secondary school for girls is to be built at Bolling Hall by the Bradford Education Committee at an estimated cost of between forty and sixty thousand pounds.

Preliminary measures are in hand in connection with the erection of a new central school at Burryport. The County Education Committee and local Urban District councils are considering the question of a suitable site.

The Kent Education Committee propose to erect a school to accommodate about 400 children at Chislehurst Colliery Village.

£10,200 is the estimated value of the extensions that are to be carried out at Stoke Park Secondary School, Coventry.

Dronfield is to have new school buildings which will cost £14,000.

The London County Council intend to erect new secondary school buildings at a cost of £53,000 at Putney.

A new school is to be built at the cost of £18,000 at Shuttlewood by the Derbyshire Education Committee, and the same authority propose to spend £15,000 on scholastic buildings at Staveley.

Plans have been prepared by the County Architect in connection with the proposed alterations of the grammar school at St. Asaph, Flintshire.

New school buildings are to be erected at Stonebroom in Derbyshire.

Trade Notes.

Boyle's latest Patent "Air-Pump" Ventilator has been applied to the Institute, the Carlton Main Colliery Co., Ltd., near Barnsley. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

A Shopfitting Manual.

As every architect knows, the internal construction and subdivision of modern shopfittings are largely controlled by the class of display the client wishes to make. Messrs. Fredk. Sage & Co., Ltd., 58-62 Gray's Inn Road, Holborn, London, W.C.1, after much careful thought have constructed a number of standard units which have been designed to lend themselves to an unlimited combination and interchange ability. To enable architects to visualise the possibilities of these Sage Unit Fittings the firm have prepared and issued an illustrated manual. This book has necessitated the outlay of a very considerable sum of money, as the illustrations are of a constructive nature, by virtue of a number of folders which enable those interested to construct over thirty different internal combinations in connection with one unit. Such a unit may be 7 feet 9 inches high and with glass-fronted drawers with disappearing lift-up flaps and trays, and with frameless sliding sashes and trays, all of which are absolutely interchangeable. A 7 feet 9 inches unit may contain forty glass-fronted drawers; on the other hand, it is possible to alter the entire character of the internal fittings by using three differently fitted Sage units in combination, which will still together attain the same height. Three Sage units in combination will also give a height of 6 feet 9 inches with two base drawers and wrapping paper roll device in the centre, or this device may be eliminated to the advantage of the size of the two drawers. Two Sage units in combination attain a height of 5 feet 3 inches. These cabinets are designed so that they can be placed side by side. A special patent device will knit them together and permits of individual architectural expression, the device being in the nature of a narrow panel.

Messrs. Fredk. Sage & Co., Ltd., desire it to be clearly understood that they make no attempt to dictate any special ornamental features in connection with their Sage units to the profession. An architect is at liberty to prepare drawings for the fittings to be in any style or period. Messrs. Fredk. Sage & Co., Ltd., will, in fact, welcome and invite architects to design their own external details to their fittings.

The single cabinet composed of three or two Sage units of any internal character are made in whole and half width sizes or in whole two-thirds and half width sizes, or in whole two-thirds and one-third width sizes, thus enabling cabinets to fit any specific wall spaces, it being possible to work to multiples of inches.

It will be easily realised that with these Sage units every conceivable combination of display is possible.

"Sika."

The merit of a valuable waterproofing agent has been brought to our notice by some convincing recent tests. It is made by Messrs. Eastwoods, Ltd., the brick manufacturers and builders' merchants, of 47 Belvedere Road, Lambeth, S.E.1. "Sika" materials have been known and used for some 15 years, and the tests applied during that period and the perfection and improvement of its manufacture place it in the first rank of materials which can be applied with certainty of success in very difficult cases. It was used in the St. Gothard and Simplon Tunnels, where the water came out in streams of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thickness, and for subsoil water in pits of over 300 feet in depth, where the water was coming in under conditions of great pressure. In the case of a large sewage tank at Wimbledon which was leaking the damage was eliminated by applying "Sika" externally without emptying the tank. The fact that it can be applied without relief of water pressure makes it an unusually valuable agent in cases of emergency. It is made in various grades, Nos. 1 and 1b where the pressure is relieved during application, and 2, 3 and 4 where the pressure is unrelieved. It has been most thoroughly tested and scientifically examined, and may be said to supply an effective remedy against the many difficulties arising out of the presence of damp, while it sets quickly and is easily applied. Messrs. Eastwoods also manufacture "Conservado" to preserve brick and stonework, "Purigo" to clean and harden stonework, "Pellafort," "Contagress," and "Saurier," which are elastic coatings to prevent the damage done by damp rust and other agents on walls, tanks and concrete roofs; "Igas," an everlasting putty for parquet flooring; "Neflam," a fireproof paint; "Anti-Frost," which renders cement impervious to frost. The firm is at all times ready to advise architects, and will place its chemical knowledge at their service.

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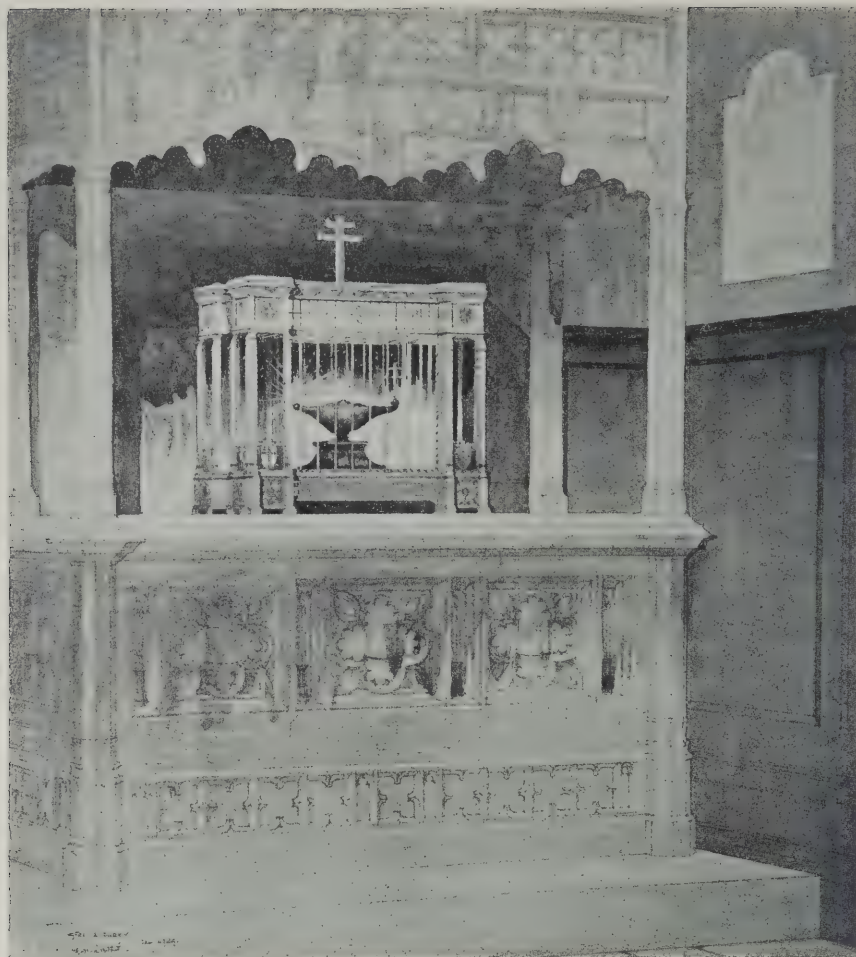


NEW P. & O. OFFICES, ST. MARY AXE, E.C. MESSRS. COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.

Politics and the Building Industry.

It may seem paradoxical to assert, what is nevertheless absolutely true, that the greatest necessity of the times is concerted political action to effect the elimination of politics in our national life. In no calling of that life is the necessity so clearly evidenced as in the building industry. The high cost of building is directly attributable to the cost of labour not only in actual building operations but in that of every manufactured article used in the industry. We are confronted with evidence that the wages paid when compared with the cost of living are by no means excessive, and even in some cases inadequate, but equally it is indisputable that the *quantum meruit* given for wages is often totally insufficient. It is also clear, as the evidence available and our own experience shows, that the objection to increased production and to longer hours does not arise from the individuals affected, but from the autocratic policy of the Trade Unions which represent whole industries. These are alike

determined to resist any schemes of dilution except upon impossible terms and to prevent individuals exercising their free option in the matter of working longer hours. The main objection to disposing of the autocratic power exercised by the Unions is that they represent a powerful political factor which can be thrown on one side or other of the scales at an election. And yet the views of official Labour are endorsed by a minority of the electors and are only powerful because the majority against them are divided upon what are in reality matters of minor importance. And yet those who form a divided majority must individually recognise that they have an uncertain chance of obtaining success so long as they occupy entirely separate platforms. We take the proposals of the present Labour Government *cum grano salis*, because we have the easy conviction that they will not have a sufficiently long tenure of office to carry them into execution or,



R.A. 1924. CASKET FOR TOC H PATRONS LAMP OF MAINTENANCE AT ALL HALLOWS.
BY-THE-TOWER. ALEC SMITHERS, Architect, of Messrs. Campbell Jones, Son & Smithers, Architects.

we say complacently, that they are far more moderate than we should have expected them to be, forgetting that we are only getting a momentary glance at the fringe of a series of measures which Labour, if more strongly entrenched in power, would certainly bring forward.

We hold that Mr. Wheatley's Housing Proposal should be contested, not as an academic measure which has no chance of final fulfilment, but as a dangerous and determined attack on the financial position of the country, which will hamper building, increase the prices of everything we want to obtain and form a heavy additional burden on the almost exhausted taxpayer.

The advocates of all really great reforms are not usually afraid of stating their case impartially, but those lesser men who, like the Labour leaders, are uncertain of their ground, suppress half their facts and build up their case on the remainder. So it is that no reference is made to the intolerable tyranny of the Unions, or to the broad fact that production has fallen off to a large fraction of what it was twenty years ago, and the tendency of every promised measure gives fresh impetus in the direction of lessening output.

We know that in the years preceding 1911 all housing, with a few small exceptions, including a small fraction of slum clearances in our larger towns, was carried out by private enterprise and that there were houses for the wants of the whole population, but since that time the number of bricklayers available has fallen from 92,000 in 1911 to 53,000 in 1923, a decrease of over 40 per cent., while the number of carpenters has fallen from 177,000 to 107,000, a difference of about 40 per

cent. It is clear from such figures, assuming that the output of labour has rather fallen than risen during the last decade, and unless a much greater proportion of the total supply of labour were diverted to house building, there must be a shortage of labour available.

It is also abundantly clear that a very strong case can be made out for dilution on an extensive scale, and that the objections of the Unions to dilution ought to be overruled.

Obviously we cannot draft men into industrial occupations, however necessary, against their will, but Government can and should put an end to the tyranny of the Labour organisations which stand in the way of the worker's exercise of his right of free option. We quite agree with Mr. Harold Cox, who states that the simpler kind of bricklaying does not constitute a highly skilled occupation, and there is no reason why the bricklayers' labourers should not be allowed to qualify for taking an upward step in the ladder of occupations. Nor is there any valid reason why the Unions should be allowed to call their men off because they have to work side by side with non-unionists on a job.

We could quite understand a Union's right of objecting to the employers turning men away because they objected to working longer than the fixed working day, but it is equally unjust that every individual should not be allowed to exercise his own option, seeing that he is paid at a standard rate for any extra time he chooses to work.

We believe also that much stricter control should be exercised over the funds of the Unions, with the object of distinguishing between the expenditure of money

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ONDON HOUSE.

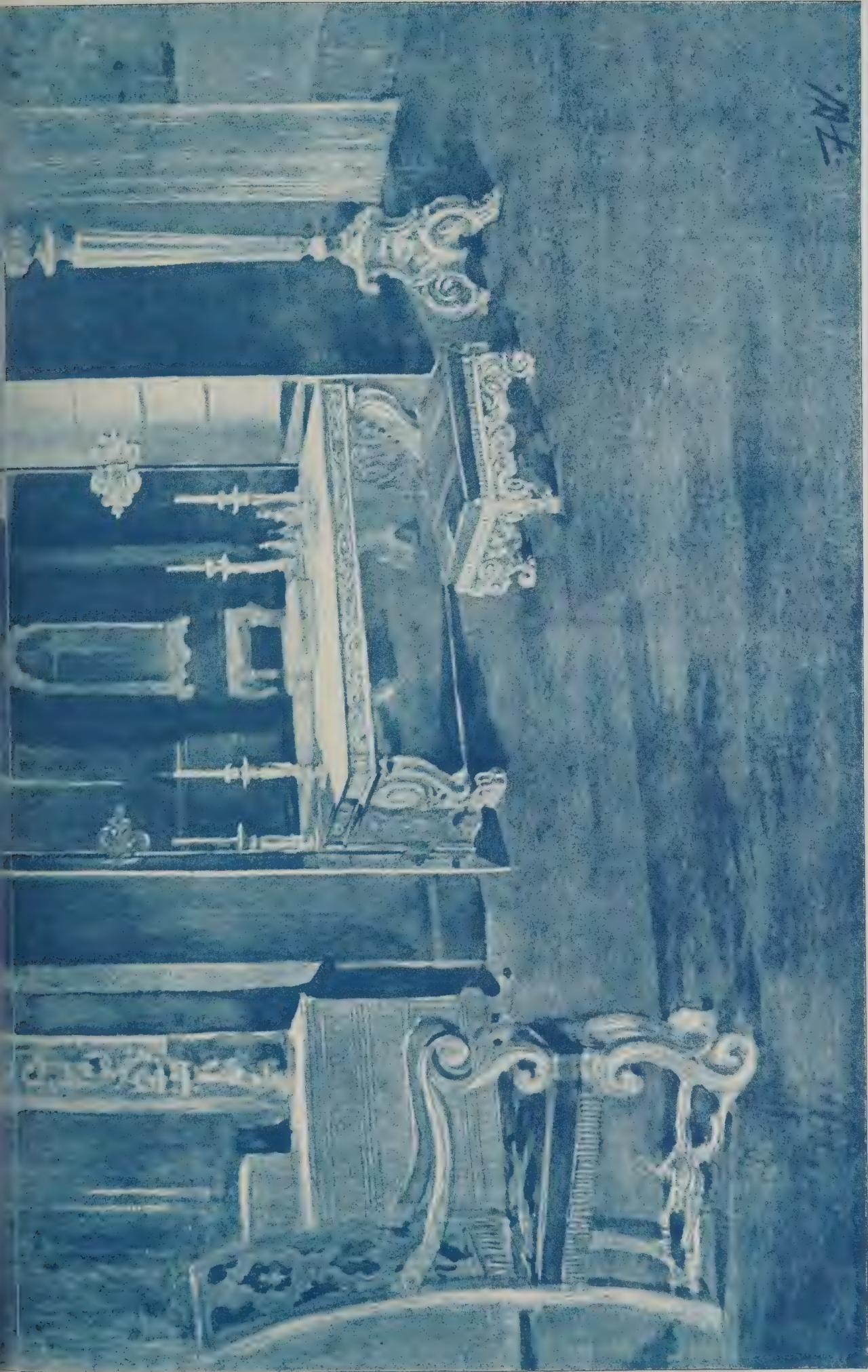
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THE ARCHITECT, JUNE 6th, 1924.





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DRESSING TABLE AND MIRROR FOR LADY'S BEDROOM IN A LONDON HOUSE.

MESSRS. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, ARCHITECTS.

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ELEVATION TO

NEW OFFICES FOR THE P. & O. ST

COLLCUTT

JUNE 6th, 1924.



ST. MARY AXE E.C.

*Coltman & Co. Ltd.
Architects*

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NAVIGATION CO., ST. MARY AXE, E.C.

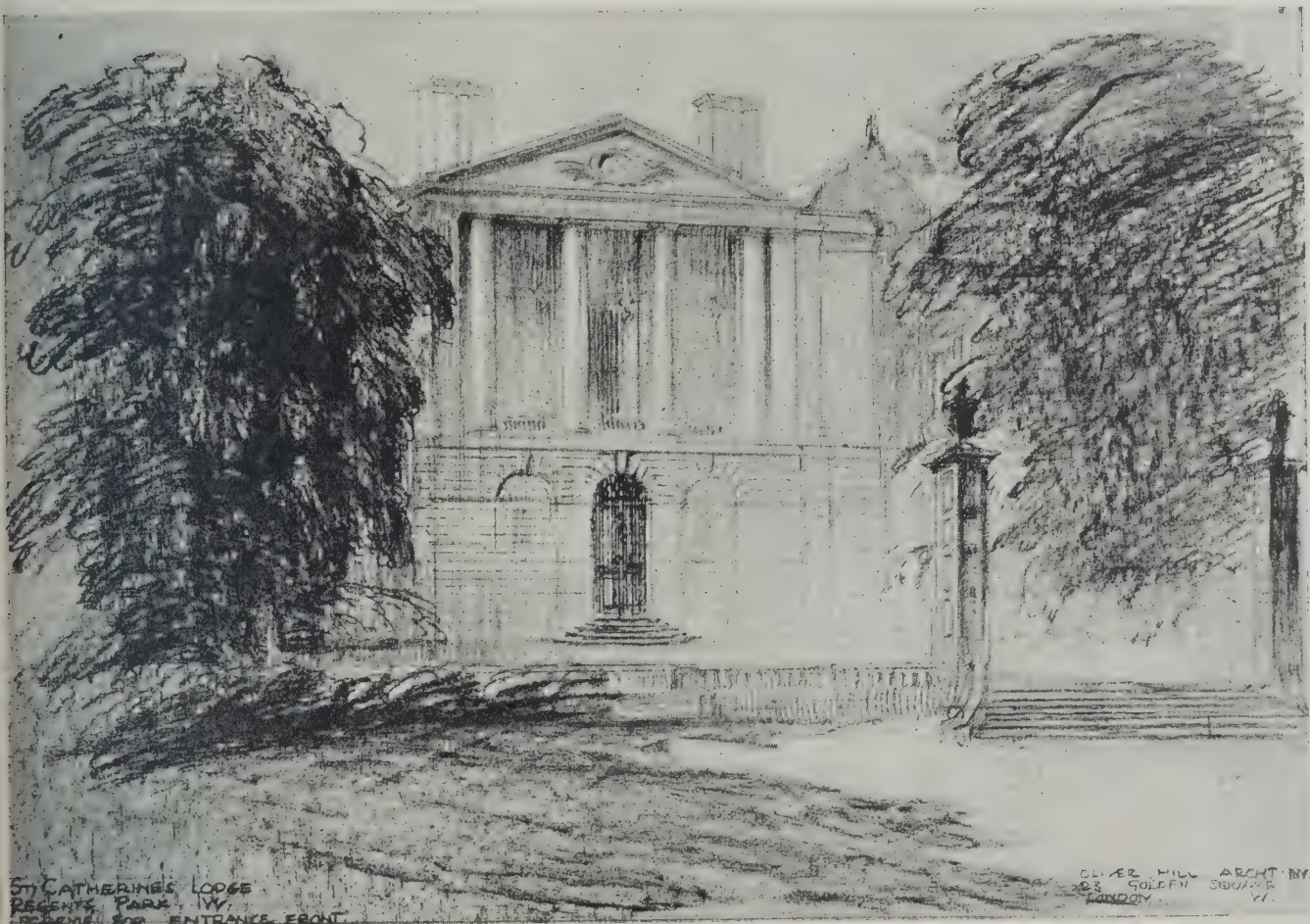
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for trade or for political purposes with which a large number of unionists have little or no sympathy.

Now that we have such abundance of evidence of the mischief which arises out of the use of the Unions as part of a political machine, a determined effort should be made by Government to end the position. This cannot with any certainty be taken by any party which has not a large majority behind it, but it is far more important to the welfare of the community than many of the differences which prevent men of moderate views from acting together. We believe that were these disturbing factors swept away the nation would begin to make real progress towards prosperity and that the large bulk of the workers would in the end see that the steps taken were in their own interests.

We should get houses when no artificial conditions were allowed to hamper the activities of either employers or workers and we should get them without recourse to the taxpayers' pockets. As things are it is clear to us that the more Governments promise to do the greater will become the difficulties they will have to face, and that the only way in which Governments can help is to clear away the wreckage which futile measures have been instrumental in creating. Mr. Harold Cox is quite right when he says it should be made a criminal offence for any Union to interfere with the liberty of any man to enter the building industry and to work overtime whenever he feels inclined.



ST. CATHERINE'S LODGE, REGENT'S PARK, W. SCHEME FOR ENTRANCE FRONT. OLIVER HILL, Architect.

Our Illustrations.

DRAWING ROOM FOR A LONDON HOUSE. MESSRS. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.

DRESSING TABLE AND MIRROR FOR LADY'S BEDROOM IN A LONDON HOUSE. MESSRS. LOWRY & WOODHOUSE, Architects.

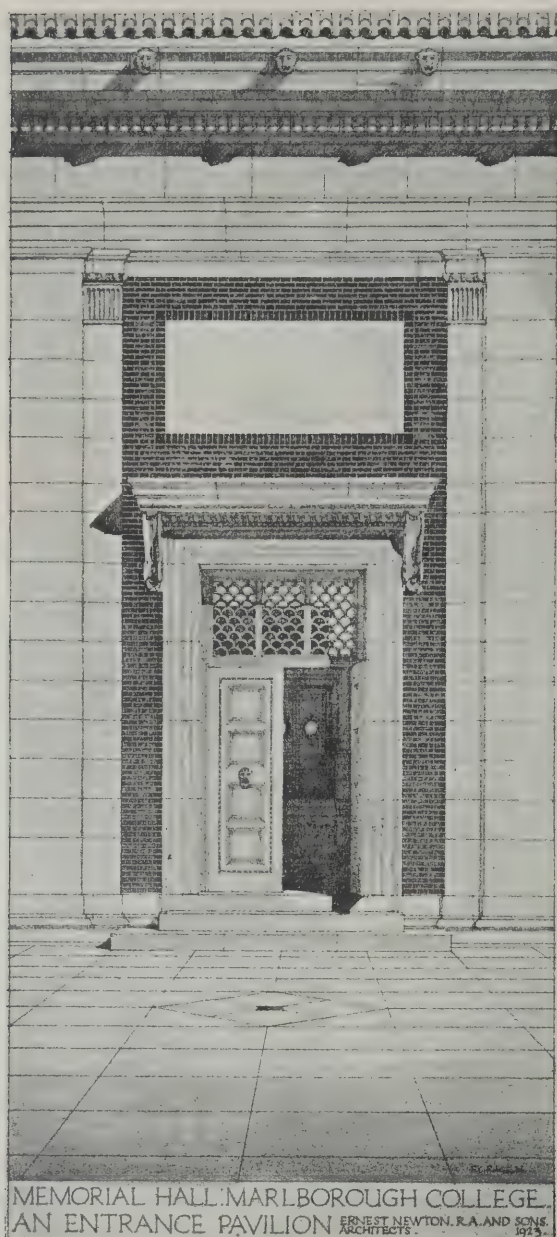
NEW OFFICES FOR THE P. & O. STEAM NAVIGATION CO., ST. MARY AXE, E.C. MESSRS. COLLCUTT & HAMP, Architects.

Notes and Comments.

Henry Heathcote Statham.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of H. H. Statham, for a very long period of years the Editor of "The Builder." The enormous amount of work and care which he gave to it undoubtedly advanced its interests and raised its reputation. He was a man of very wide and varied knowledge, a good and most conscientious critic if sometimes somewhat doctrinaire and intolerant in his views. As an architect he showed a disposition to

reduce design and decoration to square with theories, an attempt which is beset with pitfalls. Besides his work for "The Builder" he did a good deal of writing, his greatest contribution to architectural literature taking the form of a History, published by Messrs. Batsford in 1914. He had an intimate knowledge of music, and was wont to say that had he not been an architect he would have been the greatest of living organists—an expression which was characteristic of a man who was too conscious of his powers



R.A. 1924. MEMORIAL HALL DETAIL.
ERNEST NEWTON, R.A., & SONS, Architects.

to mind asserting himself. He was both exceptionally sincere and straightforward, but perhaps a little inclined to underrate similar qualities in those he met. He achieved a reputation which will be long remembered by his architectural friends and contemporaries, and if he had not been somewhat hampered by the defects of his qualities he might have achieved even more than he did.

A Building Programme.

A seaside resident writes to the "Mirror" to say that if he had £50,000 he would pay his debts—a very laudable proceeding—and then buy all the land in the town, build himself a small house in a large garden, and then buy all available land, build houses on it, let them at a reasonable rent, and so break the corner in houses which exists in this town.

Half the houses are empty during the winter and let furnished at extortionate rents for a few weeks during the summer, with the result that would-be and have-to-be residents have to pay impossible rents to live in someone else's house.

We should think it obvious that the holiday resident will always have to pay a rent which is proportionally extortionate in the ratio of insufficiency of supply to demand. The writer's programme will not alter this condition of things.

If he builds many houses he will merely increase the supply available for summer visitors and the permanent occupier will find his house brings him in less profit. But £50,000, though a comfortable sum out of which to pay one's debts, might be too small to cover the cost of "all available land" in a neighbourhood, and it is possible that our friend would end by having more sympathy with those whom he considers to be in a "ring" after a little practical experience of the difficulties they have to meet. But we need not perhaps take such proposals very seriously as they are conditional on circumstances which are problematical.

"The Houses of the Workers."

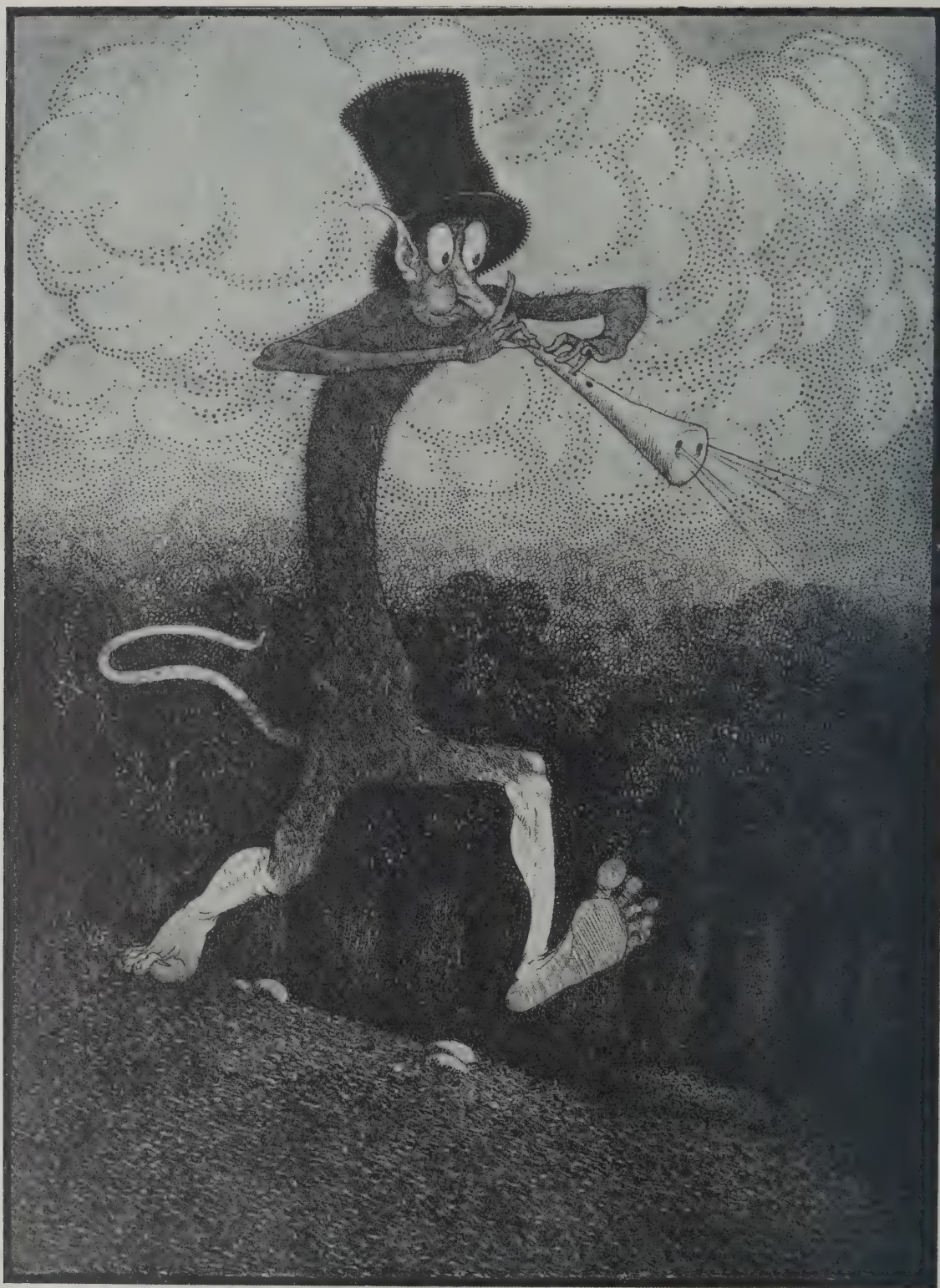
Under this title Mr. A. Sayle has written a very clear and concise account of the problem of Housing, his view being undoubtedly somewhat coloured by his late official connection with the Ministry of Health as Sub-Inspector. As he says, the Housing question has always been with us since the days of the ancient civilisations and the problem has always been an economic one. He lays great stress on the political necessity of adequate housing, but rather seems to us to evade the real issue, which is this: Before 1911 houses could be built to show a fair return on money invested and there was a supply which generally met the demand. Doubtless all were not well or adequately housed, but they had accommodation. Now it has been made practically impossible for anyone to build houses as a commercial proposition, while it is almost inconceivable that the whole of what is required can be supplied at the cost of the taxpayer. Is not the last case worse than the former, and if so must it not be put down to the fact that Governments have at great cost interfered in matters which were best left alone? This does not do away with the fact that the little book in question is a clear and readable presentation of facts connected with housing which is of value and should be known, but the reader should remember the author's natural bias and make allowances for it. The book is published by Messrs. Fisher Unwin at 12s. 6d.

Devonshire House and an American Architect.

We received a cutting from a contemporary newspaper giving details of the proposal for building a block of flats on the site of Devonshire House with Mr. Thomas Hastings of New York as architect in collaboration with Professor Reilly of Liverpool. Our anonymous correspondent writes "What are London architects doing to suffer this humiliation to an American architect?" We do not understand where the "humiliation" comes in. The building of a block of flats is presumably a business speculation in which American capital is invested, and the syndicate have some reason in selecting an eminent architect whose reputation they know. The site has been available for a long time, and it is common knowledge that many schemes have been drawn up for its utilization. But the key of all these situations is that of finance, and English architects need not feel "humiliated" if that key has been seized by Americans. It may be a pity that such is the case, but that is as far as we should be inclined to go. Financiers will always take what seems to them the safest course to further their interests irrespective of nationality. The South Americans may think it a pity that so many trading concerns and corporations there are in English hands, but we believe that South Americans are only too glad that their countries should be exploited by foreign capitalists. We do not know how long we might have waited before the Aldwych site was taken in hand by an English syndicate or how long the site of Devonshire House might have remained in the market, but though we should have been glad to see English architects employed for both building schemes, we doubt if they have any legitimate cause for complaint. We should even be glad if an enterprising American syndicate would carry out a national housing scheme here without resorting to the taxpayers' contributions, but that, we are afraid, is a much less attractive proposition for Brother Jonathan than housing the wealthy.



FINSBURY CIRCUS HOUSE, E.C. MESSRS. GORDON & GUNTON, Architects From "Buildings of To-day and To-morrow."



THE ZOOM "BOGEY BEASTS." SIDNEY H. SIME, Artist.

Sidney H. Sime Exhibition.

A very unique, in fact, the very first public, exhibition of the work of Sidney H. Sime is being held at the St. George's Gallery, 32A, George Street, Hanover Square, W.1. The artist has been described in these modern times as an individuality that creates. The world to-day is no longer willing to designate the title of artist to all who wield the brush, pencil or modelling and carvers' tools. Such men are recognised for the most part as painters, draughtsmen, sculptors and architects. But the artist in any of these arts must possess a creative mind.

The truthful representation of nature in any form is no longer sufficient to deserve the title, neither will the erection of a mere building structurally and economically correct permit the architect to consider himself an artist in his craft. The public demands something more. The artist must reveal his soul, he must create pictures, groups or buildings which uplift and inspire. The public deserves to be moved, stirred out of itself, brought to a complete standstill. Pictures, buildings and groups

of sculpture which can be realised at a glance no longer satisfy the humblest. Those who visit this exhibition of Sidney H. Sime's work will most certainly admit that Mr. Sime is in very truth a great artist, and that we possess very few that in any way approach his imaginative ability.

We do not wish to convey the impression that we are enraptured with all that is shown in this exhibition; we would rather voice the thought that this artist has so to speak opened the gates and shown us a wonderful vista of all the beauties that lay beyond the humdrum things of this life. We are inclined and pleased to sit and look at Mr. Sime's imaginative pictures, such as "The Guardians" and "The Scene Shifter," and let our thoughts travel where they will for a space of time. When we awake a feeling of regret is uppermost in our minds; we have travelled beyond the scope of word expression of the places we have seen, and we are sorry to come back and be obliged to take up the threads of ordinary life again. "The Pool," which occupies a central position in the gallery, is rather bewildering

at first. The mixture of the conventional and realistic forms is a little difficult to realise at first though later these take their proper places in the whole conception, and we are forced to admit that the picture is full of beauty and original charm. We turn to Sime's caricatures, and it is not difficult to fancy we hear the laughter that greeted their first appearance at the Yorick Club, which, by the way, still exists as one of the few Bohemian coteries in London at the present date. Here the fortunate visitor is able to see a number of other caricatures by the same artist—all of great merit and humour.

The Illustrated Press.

On May 24 two of our leading illustrated weekly journals published Empire Exhibition issues—"The Graphic" and "The Illustrated London News." Both journals include in these issues some views of the Exhibition which an architect would find worth while keeping. Our selection from "The Illustrated London News" is as follows (page 946). Old London Bridge, the East African Pavilion, and the British Government Pavilion seen through the arch of Old London Bridge is charming, though of no great value in point of architectural interest, but still might be kept, the South African Pavilion on page 948. The central doorway of this pavilion makes a very strong appeal to us. Pages 952 and 953 might contain some interesting data if they had been printed in black and white, but they are printed in a manner to give a special stereoscopic relief effect if viewed through special red and green films which we do not possess. A view of the Indian Pavilion from one of its colonnades, on page 957, is well worth keeping, as is also a small view of the same pavilion at the right-hand bottom corner of page 971. With regard to "The Graphic," we like the British Government Pavilion, the view of the Entrance Hall and the Old London Bridge pictures on page 800. Failing a better illustration of the Palace of Engineering entrance, we should feel inclined to keep the one on page 801. On page 803 we should cut out the right and left top view. The small view of the Entrance Hall, Nigeria (top centre, page 811), is also, in our opinion, quite worth considering. The Cyprus and Ceylon Pavilions on page 813 and the picture of the Hong Kong Pavilion we should be inclined to paste into our reference scrap books. Without any disrespect to Royalty we should cut out only the architectural interest in the Hong Kong Pavilion picture. On page 834 we should retain the official advertisement picture. It seems to ourselves to illustrate in a very admirable manner the Indian Pavilion, which in our opinion is without exception the best pavilion from an architectural point of view in the whole Exhibition.

"Buildings of To-day and To-morrow."

Under this title Messrs. Trollope & Colls, Ltd., London, have published a review of their work as builders and contractors.

The object of this book is to place on record a review of the past and present activities of the firm of Trollope & Colls, which includes some very large contracts at home and abroad, and also includes illustrations of their decorative work in connection with both ships and buildings. Some of the works illustrated are Messrs. Barclay's Bank, Pall Mall (Arthur Blomfield and A. J. Driver, architects); The Phoenix Assurance Co., Ltd., King William Street (J. Macvicar and H. L. Anderson, architects); the refacing of the Carlton Club, Pall Mall (Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., architect); Furness House, Leadenhall Street (M. E. Collins, architect); The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., Leadenhall Street (Messrs. Colcutt & Hamp, architects), and Finsbury Circus House (Messrs. Gordon & Gunton, architects). We illustrate the last-mentioned building in the text of this issue, and an illustration of the P. & O. offices is included in the inset plates, being the Royal Academy drawing submitted by Messrs. Colcutt & Hamp, architects, and at present on view in the exhibition at Burlington House. The book contains a great number of very good illustrations taken from photographs. The Reinforced Concrete Railway Viaduct, Ridham Dock, on page 55, gives a very good idea of the nature of the construction and at the same time is a very artistic photograph. The Welwyn Garden City and Tilbury Housing Scheme illustrations go to prove that the firm are organised for all the many different types of buildings that are to-day all part of a contractor's work to undertake and execute to the satisfaction of all parties, whether they be big city buildings or modest dwellings.

Boyle's latest patent "Air-Pump" ventilators have been applied to the X-Ray Room, Tuberculosis Hospital, Cyma, Neath. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Correspondence

[The Editor will not be responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

The Council Election.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—The great fight is over and the late Council has been re-elected by such a majority as can leave little doubt as to the true feelings of the electorate. Had the majorities been less, then one might reasonably have been inclined to conclude that the general body of the R.I.B.A. were fairly evenly divided on the important question which has been before them; but on the figures the Defence League must surely admit that even a referendum would go against them. Under these circumstances, it is to be hoped that the Defence League, which includes many men of outstanding ability, will rally round the Council and accord to them a whole-hearted support on the question of the unification of the profession. I believe even if disagreeing with the policy of the Defence League, everyone has respected the position taken up by them on this subject, and that the profession as a whole should be grateful to them for their action; it has enabled the matter to be thoroughly thrashed out, and personally I think that the profession of architecture is to be congratulated in being so fortunate as to have men of strong conviction, who are prepared to spend their time and money so unstintingly in putting their views forward. May I venture to submit that those who have lost should rally round in that large-hearted and sportsmanlike manner for which we as Englishmen are notorious, and for the good of the profession as a whole assist at the next general meeting in giving that two-thirds majority for unification, and by such action prove that the members of the Defence League are great sportsmen and worthy of the respect of the whole profession.—Yours very faithfully,

RIP VAN WINKLE.

Art Education.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—My advice to "City Architect," whose letter, entitled "Art Education," you recently published, is that he consider very carefully what financial assistance he is prepared to offer his son for the rest of his life and what property he will be able to leave him when he dies. If the prospects are bright and your correspondent can comfortably make his son a good allowance, he would be best advised to let the young man have his own way for a period of time at least. If, on the other hand, "City Architect" is not overburdened with this world's goods, a very serious talk is necessary with this talented young man.

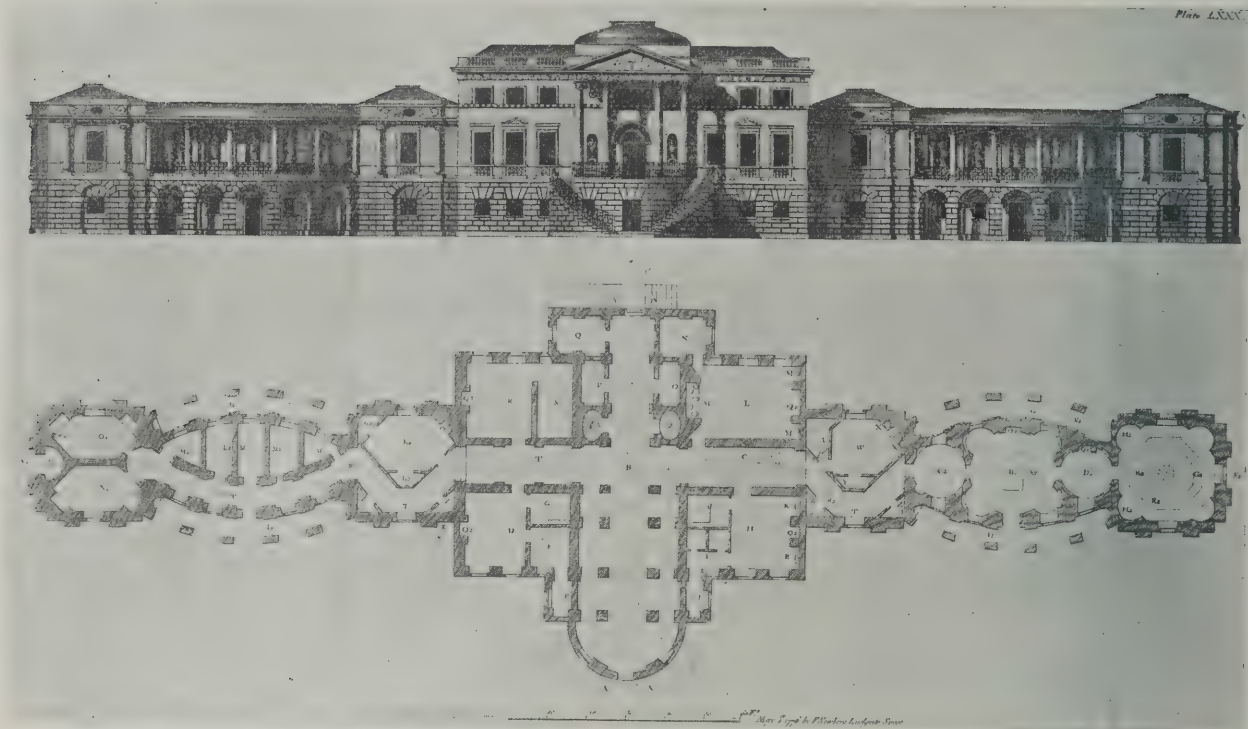
If the young man is absolutely obdurate and will not listen to any reason of any kind, your correspondent would be well advised to offer his son a home, and perhaps a room, in which for the next twelve months the young man can paint whatever his imagination will prompt him to produce.

In moderation, his social activities can be assisted provided the financial strain is not too great. To be surrounded by a lot of admiring young people of no worldly experience, to sit on sofas and gaze a vague impression does not of a necessity produce the necessary results which will enable your young artist to purchase the common necessities of life. For "City Architect" to try and force his will on his son will most certainly lead to disaster. If the boy has had a healthy education and has a happy home he will soon realise that in the main the world has no use for those who cater for the whims and fancies of the passing hour. Impressions may be very good, but, as in every other sphere in life, tastes differ, and whilst some are quite satisfied with these vague, for the most part meaningless, commencements, others, and they are the majority, are not satisfied, but demand the full complete finished product of the artist's mind. To be limited through lack of technical knowledge to only producing beginnings will soon dissatisfy the young man, and he will realise that knowledge is necessary. I recently visited an exhibition where impressionistic work was on view. I wondered whether these artists ever saw anything beautiful or whether they viewed the world and everything in it as ugly. I have often seen wonderful colour effects in the countryside and have raged at my impotence at not being able to convey to others by means of a picture the beauties I had seen. If I were an impressionist of to-day I would not admit my impotence, but would paint what I could and would for the rest time argue that my poor effort was really a truthful representation of my impression of the scene. I absolutely refuse to believe that everything is ugly. I believe the representation of things beautiful is more difficult. But I have wandered from the object of this letter and would close with the repetition of my advice, which can be summed up in this short sentence, "Give the young man a chance to find his level."

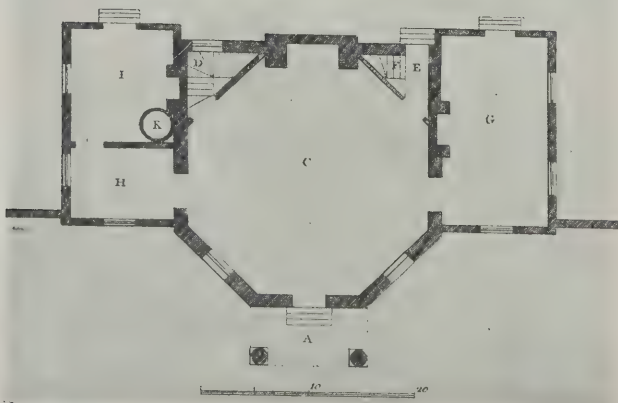
A PUZZLED ARTIST.

The Growth of Architectural Amenities in the Reign of George III.

By Mrs. Esdaile.



GROUND PLAN AND ELEVATION OF A VILLA NEAR NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.



DESIGN FOR A COUNTRY PUBLIC HOUSE. The part marked C is to be divided on the first floor into rooms for master, mistress, children, maid and man.

One of the most obvious consequences of the increase of national wealth during the eighteenth century is the number of Georgian houses still remaining. Every town, every village in the country has them; they command a heavy premium, unless they are built on a main road, and their excellent proportions and air of modest prosperity attract even the Philistine to-day. But their interiors are altered; bathrooms and central heating have obscured the original scheme, and we find it difficult to realise what they were like to live in when they were built. It may be worth while, therefore, with the help of some contemporary text-books, to inquire what the client expected of the architect, what the architect could offer to the client, a hundred and fifty years ago or thereabouts, after the wise rule of Walpole, that is, had had time to take effect, after the last threat of civil war had passed away in 1746, and before the French Revolution had, according to Talleyrand, destroyed the sweetness of life.

Before the reign of George III. stone was cheaper than brick, as Halfpenny's "Thirty-five New Designs for Erecting Parsonage-Houses, Farms, &c." (1751) shows. After that, brick came to its own even in stone districts, and became the standard and universal building material; but in the 1770's an unfortunate belief that the "nearer brick comes to stone the better," to use the words of John Carter, led to the temporary popularity of the grey stock brick in the neighbourhood of London, and doubtless influenced the later passion for cement and stucco which refaced so many red-brick houses to their detriment, to go with "the neatness and pale look of the common slate," which, in Carter's and Crunden's opinion, made that material infinitely preferable to tiles.

But whether the client made use of grey bricks or red, slates or tiles, is not now the question. The Building Act of 1774 had tightened public control on the builder, had insisted on certain specifications—14 inches below ground level and 9 inches above were the minimum thickness for external walls, for instance—had regulated the use of timber in private houses, and had severely limited the use of bow windows. What type of house emerged from these regulations? It is significant that during the first half of the eighteenth century it was the great houses alone whose plans were thought worth publishing; during the reign of

George III. the farmer and the parson received as much attention as the person of distinction, and it is the plans of these lesser houses which are really interesting to-day.

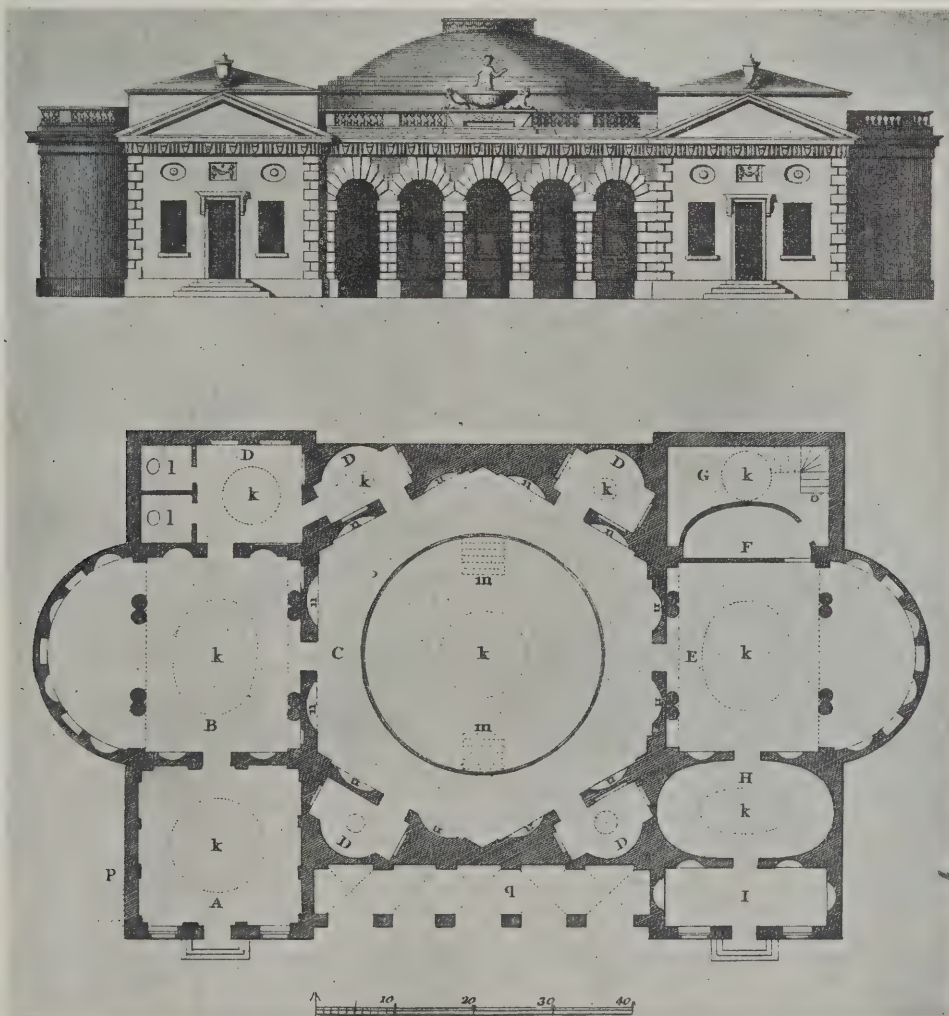
The manservant being an institution in the most modest household—Jane Austen's Mrs. Dashwood, with £500 a year, took two maids and a man to her nine-roomed cottage in Devonshire—the butler's pantry and bedroom appear in the basement of the smallest house of gentility. Nurseries, too, are given honourable mention, their place in the small town house being on the second floor, in the small country house usually on the first. The outbuildings of the superior farmhouse, even to its hen-houses, are arranged in the wings, brewhouses and baking-houses being attached even to those of small size. Even a country public-house, shown in "The Builders' Magazine," has its children's room, and in the larger type of house a governess's room is common, although it takes a mansion to soar to a tutor's. The parson has his study distinct from the best parlour and the common parlour, and the provision of dressing-rooms is almost universal in houses above the rank of cottages. The balcony on the bedroom floor and a glass door to go out on the balcony, those very modern luxuries, do not appear before 1778, and then only in a gentleman's villa of a stately order; but the increasing provision for alcoves for a sideboard, for a bed, etc., shows that architects were beginning to appreciate the value of architectural provision for necessary furniture—a point still too little considered in our modern house-planning. It is only the lordly type of villa that indulges in such luxuries as a billiard-room or smoking-room before 1780, but these are commoner than might be expected; while facilities for bathing—chiefly in separate bathhouses—are quite unexpectedly numerous, one bathroom proper, in a house near Newcastle, erected about 1775, having steps down to the water and seats to repose on.

This brings us to our next point, the provision of what

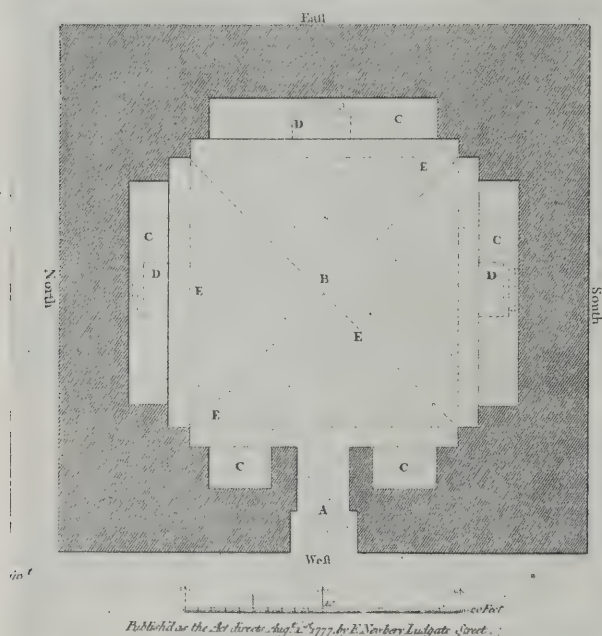
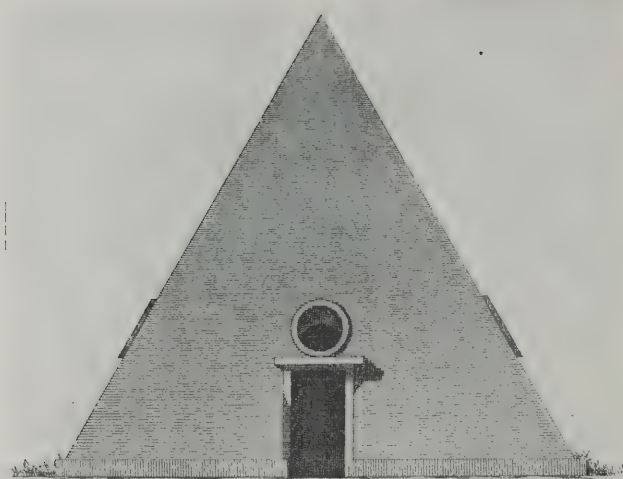
may frankly be called Luxury Buildings—the hunting lodge, keeper's lodge, the "harmonick" or musical pavilion, the tea house, rural retirement, and the like. All are distinguished by features more or less appropriate, but as it is their purpose rather than their detail which is relevant here we may pass on to the architectural qualities thought appropriate to the latest type of public building while the younger Pitt was still at school. The increasing desire for social progress is nowhere more remarkable.

Let us take first the Public Bath designed by John Carter in 1774. It was intended for subscribers who, on presenting their subscription tickets, were admitted to a comfortable saloon, where they could talk or read the papers until they were ready to bathe. Cold baths are provided, but the machinery for the hot bath is altogether more elaborate, and included a "laconicum" or sweating-room for either sex, and two cooler chambers to be entered in succession. When the bather was thus ready to face an ordinary temperature, he could visit the refreshment room, thoughtfully provided with an alcove for servants, until he was ready to summon the porter from the lesser hall below to bid his servant bring his carriage or sedan to take him home. All this is doubtless based on the regular process at Bath, "Harrowgate" and other eighteenth-century watering places; what is really new about it is the provision of reading room, baths and refreshments under the same roof. The system of heating is based on the Roman practice, and the whole luxurious plan is introduced by a passage from Statius on the baths built by Claudius, although the silver pipes and cisterns of the original are replaced by something more commonplace.

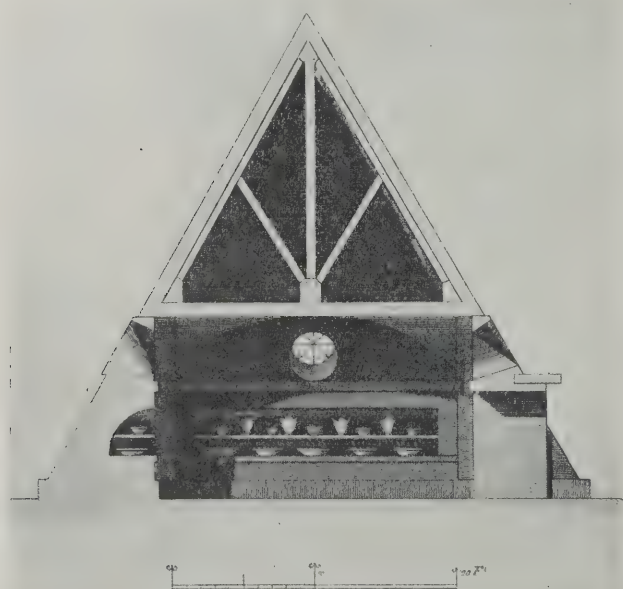
The provision of baths in a House of Pleasure "dedicated to the deities of learning, painting, music, love and friendship," strikes one as risky when the building is expressly stated to be "for the reception of company immediately after dinner"; but when we read that a bath "will exhib-



DESIGN FOR A THERMÆ OR PUBLIC BATH.



PLAN AND ELEVATION OF A PYRAMIDICAL DAIRY



SECTION OF DAIRY.

arate the spirits, brace the nerves, and enable the company to pursue their amusements and exercises with alacrity and vigour," we see why such stress is laid on bathing. This, however, is a digression from our public buildings,

but it will serve to point the moral of our subject. No less significant is the provision of a Market House, whose principal features are an assembly room, card room and refreshment room, whose very names suggest the balls and card parties of Jane Austen's heroines, though the ground floor is given up to more practical purposes.

"The Builders' Magazine" for 1775 contains an interesting example of the increasing specialisation of the age in the Hospital therein described and drawn. Physician and surgeon have their separate rooms; an elaborate and well-lighted operating theatre is provided, and adequate office room on the ground floor where, oddly enough, some of the nurses are placed, others being on the first floor, others again in the roof. The Design for a County Gaol given in the same periodical three years later shows clearly the beneficent influence of John Howard, who had begun his self-imposed and noble task of bettering the lot of prisoners in 1773. Provision is actually made for separating debtors and felons in the exercise yard and at meals, and the two classes of prisoners even have separate staircases; but it is a gruesome thought that the architect has found it needful to insert, at each angle above the first storey, "cages for the men and women debtors to beg for charity in."

One last word, and that hardly original. There is nothing new under the sun, but did the passion for things Egyptian aroused by the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamen and proclaimed by the popularity of Egyptian designs on chintzes, dresses and hangings during the past twelvemonth ever produce anything so singular as an Egyptian pyramidal dairy such as was laid before an admiring public in 1777? "Gothick" structures were, of course, *vieux jeu*; the pyramidal dairy, square inside, with recesses for pans of milk, and lighted by circular windows, so arranged as hardly to break the outline of the pyramid, was something really new. Did it ever take shape in stone as well as on paper, and if so did it share in the popularity which anything suggestive of the Pharaohs has always possessed at the British Museum?

Be that as it may, an age in which social and structural amenities were so carefully studied by the architects of the day warns us not to plume ourselves too highly on our own externals of civilisation, since our ancestors enjoyed far more of them than it is the fashion to allow, even if we no longer claim the authority of Moses for the beginning of architecture, and see in the text that Cain built a city—plain proof that Asia was the cradle of architecture. "There it had its birth, there it attained a considerable degree of perfection, and thence it spread into other parts of the world." But it was not suggested, even in 1774, when this was written, that the amenities whose growth we have been tracing had an origin so exalted.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JUNE 6, 1874.

THE FARRINGTON MARKET COMPETITION.

At the meeting of the Court of Common Council on Tuesday last a report was brought up by Mr. Rudkin from the Markets Committee stating that by an order of the Court of October 2 last they were authorised to advertise for plans and estimates for the construction of a new fruit and vegetable market on the site of the present Farringdon Market and land adjoining thereto, and to offer premiums of £300, £200 and £100 respectively for the three most approved designs.

Twenty-four designs had been received, five of them contemplating a vegetable and fruit market on a level with and approached only by vehicles from Farringdon Street, and without an upper market; nine contemplating a vegetable market on a level with and entering from Farringdon Street, and having a fruit and flower market over, approached from Shoe Lane; the remainder contemplating a vegetable market entered from a road or roads connecting Farringdon Street with Shoe Lane, having gradients approaching that of the present Stonecutter Street.

They had awarded, after careful consideration, the first premium of £300 to the author of the design bearing the motto "Estelle"; the second, of £200, to "Wholesale and Retail"; the third, of £100, to "Anchor"; with a grant of £50 each to "Plan," "Well Studied," and "Westminster."

The estimated cost of the building, according to the three principal designs, was respectively—£65,750, £88,000 and £68,890.



VILLAGE MUSEUM, HAMBLEDEN, BUCKS. W. A. FORSYTH AND H. P. G. MAULE, Architects.

The Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union

Report of the Executive Council on Education and Overcrowding in the Professions of Architecture and Surveying and the Technical Branch of the Building Industry.

Before making any detailed recommendations we are anxious to emphasise the necessity of the "assistant" section in particular and the whole professions to which we belong in general taking sufficient interest in the matters of professional education and overcrowding to set to work to remedy existing evils. Efficient professional education is in a way a most pressing matter for that man who possesses few or none of those social and financial qualifications and connections which so often form the basis of a private practice. An assistant architect's or surveyor's efficiency is usually his only, always his most valuable, stock. At the present time there are two systems of professional training in being for the profession, namely, the old "pupil" or "articles" system, and the new "school" system. A census which we have taken seems to show that at present there are in the professions five "articled" men to every "school" man. Having regard to the fact, however, that the "school" system is barely twenty years old and is increasing rapidly, the disproportion is likely to rapidly diminish. It is not denied that the "articles" system has in the past been productive of excellent men, notably where a good "master" was either sufficiently conscientious or took sufficient interest in his "pupil" to train him properly. As a system it was probably fitted for its time, the time of the old-fashioned, slow moving professional office. This time, however, has passed away. Professional offices have had to revise their routine to keep pace with the march of the industrial and commercial world outside; building methods have been completely revolutionised, and generally now a much broader conception of design and construction is required than heretofore, though by this we are not pretending to compare the principal works of one age with those of another. To-day in the big town offices the principal's time is much too valuable to devote personally to the training of pupils. It is regrettable, however, that in many offices in provincial towns pupils are still taken but left largely to their own resources. In the smaller provincial towns pupils are still generally taken where they can be found, but here also the pupil is at a disadvantage. He is taken into the office, not because the principal feels a particular aptitude for training another man in his profession, though he himself may be a capable architect or surveyor, but because his practice is not sufficiently remunerative without the constant

succession of premiums. In such an office unfortunately the pupil is doing little more than learning to trace drawings and press letters. The general opinion of members of this Union is that much of the time they spent in their articles was wasted; what they learnt they claim to have learnt afterwards in other offices, at evening classes and by private study. London and Liverpool seem to be yet the only centres where the pupil system may be said to be dead, or perhaps more correctly moribund, for even here there are instances to-day of fresh pupils being taken in. There is, however, a greater evil in this continued succession of pupils, or "apprentices" (as they are termed in some parts of the north of England and in Scotland). It is the mass production of young architects and surveyors, badly equipped at that, at a rate quite incommensurate with the world's use for them.

After dealing with local reports from various townships relating to the various proportions which exist in these centres between principals, trained assistants and pupils, the Union's report comments on the independent existence of professional training schools over which the professional institutions and societies have no control or influence. The chief trend of the arguments of the Union's report concerns itself with the desirability of cutting down the continual influx of new men into an already overcrowded profession. The report states that the Union's Executive Council have arrived at the following conclusions on the subject of education and overcrowding in the professions of architecture and surveying, etc:—

(1) That the Royal Institute of British Architects and its allied societies, the Society of Architects and the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union for the architectural profession, and the Surveyors' Institution, the Faculty of Surveyors (Scotland) and the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union for the surveying profession, working in the closest co-operation, can even without registration almost completely control the conditions of entry into and training for their respective professions, and should form joint boards.

(2) That no member of any one of the above bodies should be allowed to employ in his office on other than purely clerical duties any person who has not been trained at a proper school for the training of his profession or has not been articled as

specified below or has not been employed as an assistant or engaged as a principal in practice for at least three years previous to a date to be agreed.

(3) That the ultimate end of all education must be that it is for the benefit of the student and not for that of the teacher, in the case of indentured pupils or apprentices the employer, though each of these is undoubtedly entitled to proper remuneration for his services.

(4) That though undoubtedly the "school" system is greatly superior to the "articles" system, yet the combined cost of tuition and maintaining the student in the town where a school is situate would be prohibitive to many parents and guardians in towns where no school is within easy reach, and yet they may have sufficient connection to ensure a reasonable practice in the years to come. We are, therefore, of opinion that the "articles" system should be continued in such districts, but under such conditions as will ensure an adequate training.

(5) We therefore recommend that pupilage should not be allowed in the office of any member of the Institutions situate within one hour's railway journey (during ordinary business hours of travel) of a proper school of architecture or surveying.

(6) That no pupil or student shall be entered in any office or school unless he has obtained matriculation standard.

(7) That subject to a satisfactory probationary period in such a school, a student's parents or guardians should be obliged to enter into a legal contract under penalty to maintain the student at the school for at least three years.

(8) That outside the areas of such schools (defined (5) above) the joint board for each professional should only permit pupilage in certain approved offices under strict conditions of control.

(9) That the annual quota of new students for each school and the number of new articulated pupils shall be pre-determined by the joint boards in accordance with the needs of the professions.

(10) That separate approval shall be given for each articulated pupil entered in an office and shall be discontinued if the results are unsatisfactory.

(11) That pupilage shall be for not less than three years. During the first half of his term the pupil shall spend his whole time in study, during the second half of the term not less than half time, the other half to be devoted to obtaining practical experience in the office.

(12) That the first three months shall be probationary and the ratification of the indenture shall be subject to the approval of the joint board as the result of test work.

(13) That a detailed syllabus of training to be strictly adhered to shall be issued by the joint board or by such other authority as may be delegated by it; and a summary of it incorporated in the indenture; that such syllabus shall cover academic and practical subjects.

(14) That the pupil shall sit for his intermediate examination at the termination of his pupilage. Failure to pass shall necessitate a further six months or year of pupilage. If fault is felt to be with the employer a transfer may be decided by the joint board, and the employer not allowed to have further pupils.

(15) That no assistant shall be employed until he has passed his intermediate examination.

(16) That on the termination of his pupilage the student shall be recommended and aided to obtain employment if possible in some town where he can obtain useful experience and further professional tuition in some good evening school.

(17) That the existing evening institutions be re-organised to this end.

(18) That premiums shall be allowed, but that fees should be charged out of them to defray the cost of the syllabuses. No indenture under this scheme should however be allowed to contain restrictive clauses as to future practice.

(19) That letters be circulated to the headmasters (and perhaps headmistresses) of all public and secondary schools, the Association of Headmasters and Headmistresses and all local Education Authorities, setting forth the method of entry into the professions as approved and recognised by the joint board for the information of intending entrants.

We have used the term "proper" school in these recommendations to cover any other day school for the teaching of architecture and surveying which may be approved by the respective boards. This would probably include a large number of the present polytechnics and municipal institutes. All other schools would eventually have to close.

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The cost of the new children's wing of the Coventry Infirmary, sanctioned by the Ministry of Health, will be £16,000.

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Honorary Secretary.—Arthur Keen.

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Associate Members of Council.—Leonard Holcombe Bucknell, 1,220 votes; Professor Lionel Bailey Budden, 1,208; Michael Theodore Waterhouse, 1,208; Harold Chalton Bradshaw, 1,206; John Alan Slater, 1,204; Hope Bagenal, 1,179.

Representatives of Allied Societies.—Arthur John Hope (Manchester), William Thorpe Jones (Northern), George Andrew Paterson (Glasgow), Robert Magill Young (Ulster), George Churchus Lawrence (Wessex), James Stockdale Harrison (Leicester and Leicestershire), Edmund Bertram Kirby (Liverpool), Henry Leslie Paterson (Sheffield), Edward Prioleau Warren (Berks, Bucks and Oxon).

Representative of the Architectural Association.—Harry Stuart Goodhart-Rendel.

Practice.—Arthur Keen, 1,065 votes; Henry Victor Ashley, 906; David Barclay Niven, 749; Thomas Ridley Milburn, 724; Francis Jones, 697; Gilbert Henry Lovegrove, 686; George Hastwell Grayson, 675; Max Clarke, 645; William Gillbee Scott, 624; Frederick Chatterton, 597. Horace William Cubitt, George Leonard Elkington, Harry Valentino Milnes Emerson, John Douglas Scott, Herbert Arthur Welch, Charles Woodward.

Science.—William Alfred Pite, 967 votes; Alan Edward Munby, 870; Herbert Tudor Buckland, 865; Raymond Unwin, 861; Professor Ravenscroft Elsey Smith, 853; Herbert Duncan Searles-Wood, 819; John Edward Dixon-Spain, 730; Robert Stephen Ayling, 636; William Edward Vernon Crompton, 588; Digby Lewis Solomon, 575; Hope Bagenal, 1,120; Henry William Burrows, 1,104; Percy William Barnett, 1,035; Robert John Angel, 1,016; Harvey Robert Sayer, 972; Thomas Francis Ford, 949.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

Art.—Sir John James Burnet, A.R.A., 932 votes; Edward Guy Dawber, 882; Henry Vaughan Lanchester, 879; Professor Stanley Davenport Adshead, 854; Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A., 817; Walter Cave, 789; Halsey Ricardo, 612; Professor Frederick Moore Simpson, 589; Herbert Austen Hall, 488; Francis Winton Newman, 482; Cyril Arthur Farey, 1,122; Leonard Holcombe Bucknell, 1,102; Michael Theodore Waterhouse, 1,036; Percy Wells Lovell, 995; William Harding Thompson, 956; Thomas Smith Tait, 947.

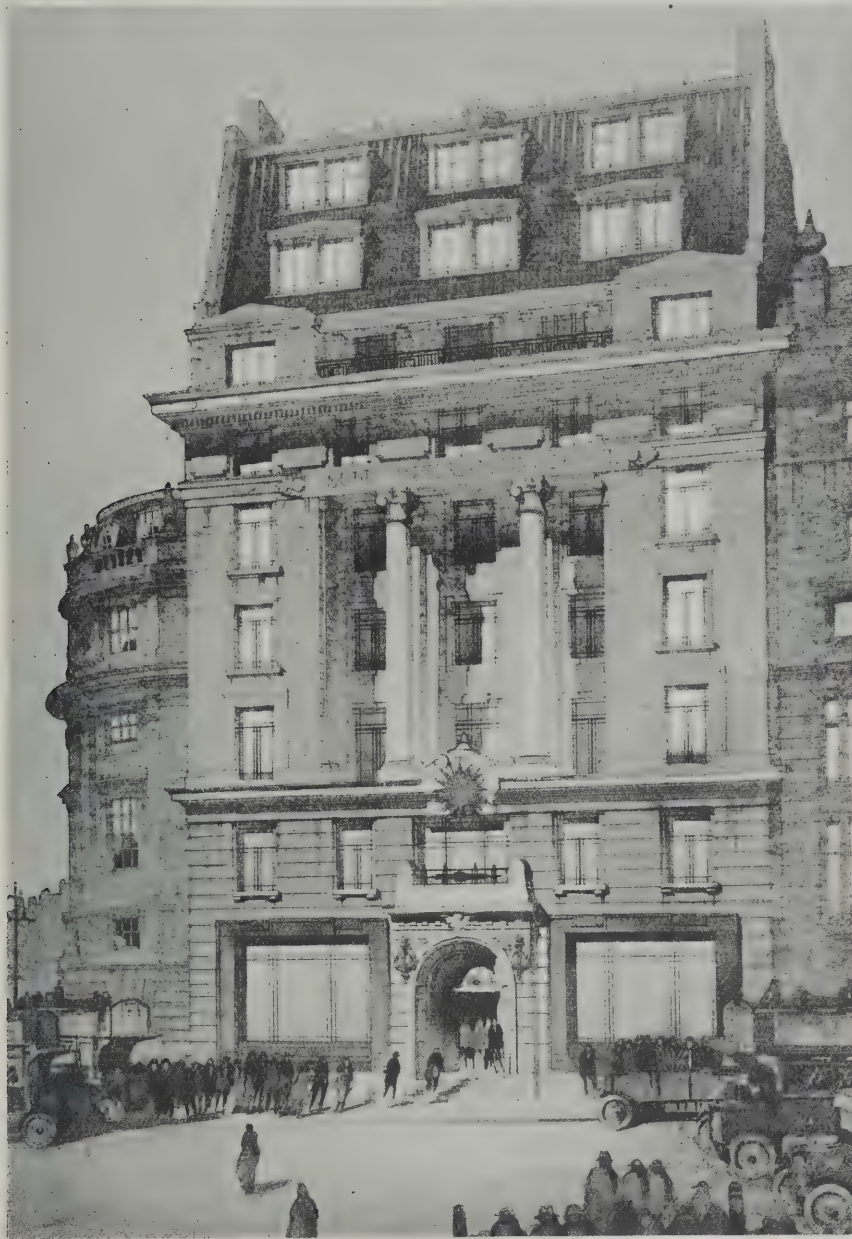
Literature.—Henry Martineau Fletcher, 996 votes; Major Hubert Christian Corlette, 975; Edwin Stanley Hall, 945; Martin Shaw Briggs, 886; David Theodore Fyfe, 880; Charles Harrison Townsend, 864; Arthur Stratton, 848; Louis Ambler, 825; Charles Sydney Spooner, 816; William Henry Ansell, 792; Professor John Hubert Worthington, 1,037; Harold Chalton Bradshaw, 955; John Alan Slater, 955; Charles Cowles-Voysey, 839; Philip Waddington Hubbard, 807; Arthur Trystan Edwards, 741.

Tenders.

MIDDLESEX.—For additions to Council School, Stanley Road, Teddington, for the Education Committee of the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crothall, F.R.I.B.A., county architect:—Ferris Bros., Acton, W., £13,584 (recommended for acceptance); Dickens, W. J., Ealing, W., £13,750; Bollom, G., Acton, W.3, £13,760; Daley, W., & Co., Acton, W., £14,100; Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, W.10., £14,325; Challis, G., Brentford, Middlesex, £14,346; Monk, A., Lower Edmonton, N., £14,390; Knight, H., & Son, Tottenham, N., £14,416; Lacey, W., Hounslow, £14,736; Lawrence, W., & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury Square, E.C., £14,747; Newby, C. J., & Bros., Southgate, N., £14,815; Gaze, W. H., & Sons, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames, £15,623; Plaistowe, E., & Sons, Ltd., Southall, Middlesex, £16,550.

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R.A. 1924. PROPOSED REBUILDING OF NOS. 58-6) CHARING CROSS. HAYWARD & MAYNARD, Architects.

The Architectural Assistant's Position.

The statement we published last week from the Chairman of the Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Union raises interesting and very difficult questions.

It is assumed that the assistant's position can be bettered if the professional bodies take very drastic steps in regard to the option of their members in taking articled pupils, while the advantages gained by pursuing the alternative course of leaving men to obtain their education in schools of architecture is emphasised.

In the past it was the rule rather than the exception that a great part of the architect's work was carried out by pupils in different stages of proficiency, and it was a common practice for architects to receive anything up to £300, or even more, as a premium. Now,

as a general rule, premiums, if asked for, are often smaller, and the amounts so paid are frequently almost completely paid back to the pupil, either before or shortly after his term of pupilage is completed. We are told that the old methods still linger in parts of the provinces, but they are rapidly dying out.

We should, from our experience, always be inclined to advise an architect never to take a pupil under any conditions whatsoever, because it is most difficult to judge any man's aptitude for any profession, and as it is natural and human for any pupil, who after leaving his first office is unfortunate, to complain of the scanty experience he has gained. An architect very seldom has the time to instruct a pupil, and if he does not use his own opportunities he learns little of

specified below or has not been employed as an assistant or engaged as a principal in practice for at least three years previous to a date to be agreed.

(3) That the ultimate end of all education must be that it is for the benefit of the student and not for that of the teacher, in the case of indentured pupils or apprentices the employer, though each of these is undoubtedly entitled to proper remuneration for his services.

(4) That though undoubtedly the "school" system is greatly superior to the "articles" system, yet the combined cost of tuition and maintaining the student in the town where a school is situate would be prohibitive to many parents and guardians in towns where no school is within easy reach, and yet they may have sufficient connection to ensure a reasonable practice in the years to come. We are, therefore, of opinion that the "articles" system should be continued in such districts, but under such conditions as will ensure an adequate training.

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Fellows.—Sir John James Burnet, A.R.A., 1,251 votes; Henry Vaughan Lancheater, 1,227; Walter Cave, 1,211; William Curtis Breen, A.R.A., 1,210; Professor Stanley Davenport Adstead, 1,205; Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A., 1,173; Henry Victor Ashley, 1,145; Sir Banister Flight Fletcher, 1,138; Major Hubert Christian Corlette, 1,131; Sir Alfred Brunnell Thomas, 1,119; Francis Thomas Verity, 1,113; John Keppie, 1,097; Henry Martineau Fletcher, 1,089; Francis Jones, 1,080; Percy Edward Thomas, 1,069; Thomas Taliesin Rees, 1,062; Edwin James Sadgrove, 1,037; Edward Charles Philip Monson, 999.

Associate Members of Council.—Leonard Holcombe Bucknell, 1,220 votes; Professor Lionel Bailey Budden, 1,208; Michael Theodore Waterhouse, 1,208; Harold Chilton Bradshaw, 1,206; John Alan Slater, 1,204; Hope Bagenal, 1,179.

Representatives of Allied Societies.—Arthur John Hope (Manchester), William Thorne Jones (Northern), George Andrew Paterson (Glasgow), Robert Magill Young (Ulster), George Churchus Lawrence (Wessex), James Stockdale Harrison (Leicester and Leicestershire), Edmund Bertram Kirby (Liverpool), Henry Leslie Paterson (Sheffield), Edward Prioleau Warren (Berks, Bucks and Oxon).

Representative of the Architectural Association.—Harry Stuart Goodhart-Rendel.

Practice.—Arthur Keen, 1,065 votes; Henry Victor Ashley, 906; David Barclay Niven, 749; Thomas Ridley Milburn, 724; Francis Jones, 697; Gilbert Henry Lovegrove, 686; George Haswell Grayson, 675; Max Clarke, 645; William Gilbye Scott, 624; Frederick Chatterton, 597; Horace William Cubitt, George Leonard Elkington, Harry Valentine Milnes Emerson, John Douglas Scott, Herbert Arthur Welch, Charles Woodward.
Science.—William Alfred Pte, 967 votes; Alan Edward Munby, 870; Herbert Tudor Buckland, 865; Raymond Unwin, 861; Professor Ravenscroft Elsey Smith, 853; Herbert Duncan Searles-Wood, 819; John Edward Dixon-Spaul, 730; Robert Stephen Ayring, 636; William Edward Vernon Crompton, 588; Digby Lewis Solomon, 575; Hope Bagenal, 1,120; Henry William Burrows, 1,104; Percy William Barnett, 1,035; Robert John Angel, 1,016; Harvey Robert Sayer, 972; Thomas Francis Ford, 949.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

Art.—Sir John James Burnet, A.R.A., 932 votes; Edward Guy Dawber, 882; Henry Vaughan Lancheater, 879; Professor Stanley Davenport Adstead, 854; Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A., 817; Walter Cave, 789; Halsey Ricardo, 612; Professor Frederick Moore Simpson, 589; Herbert Austen Hall, 488; Francis Winton Newman, 482; Cyril Arthur Farey, 1,122; Leonard Holcombe Bucknell, 1,102; Michael Theodore Waterhouse, 1,036; Percy Wells Lovell, 995; William Harding Thompson, 956; Thomas Smith Taft, 947.

Literature.—Henry Martineau Fletcher, 996 votes; Major Hubert Christian Corlette, 975; Edwin Stanley Hall, 945; Martin Shaw Briggs, 886; David Theodore Frye, 880; Charles Harrison Townsend, 864; Arthur Stratton, 848; Louis Ambler, 825; Charles Sydney Spooner, 816; William Henry Ansell, 792; Professor John Hubert Worthington, 1,037; Harold Chilton Bradshaw, 955; John Alan Slater, 955; Charles Cowles-Voysey, 839; Philip Waddington Hubbard, 807; Arthur Trystan Edwards, 741.

Tenders.

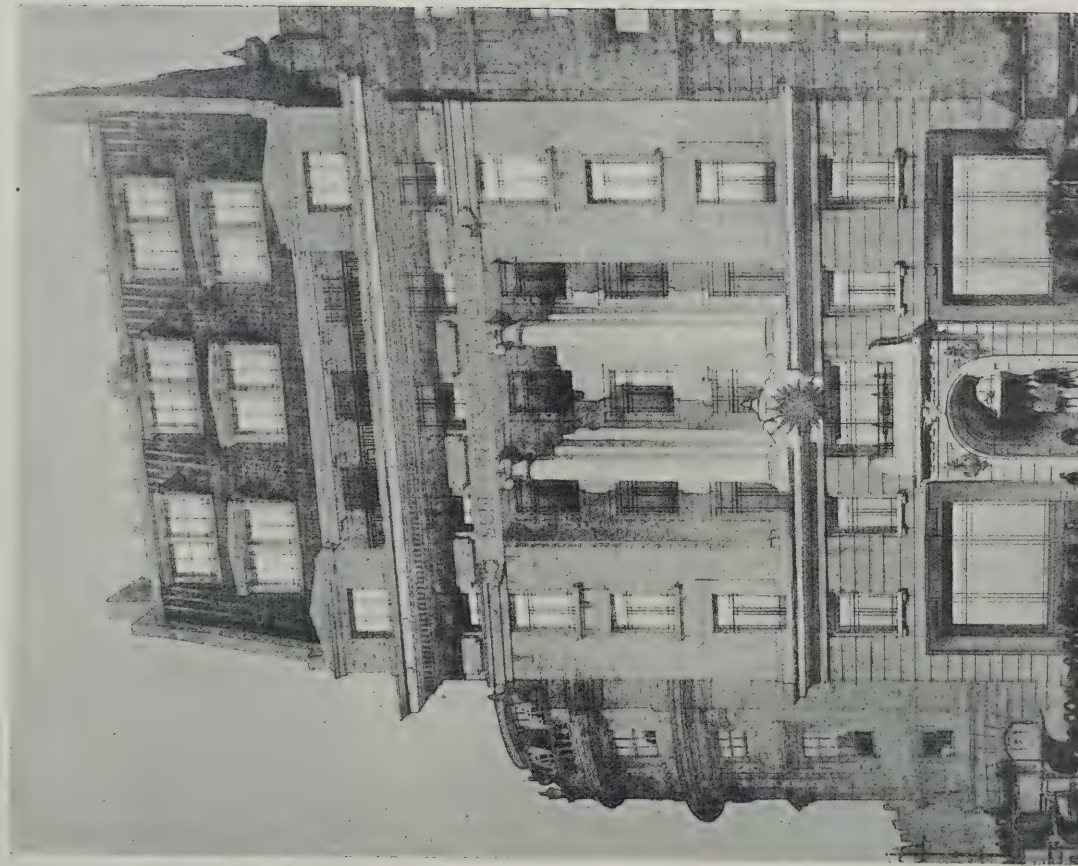
MIDDLESEX.—For additions to Council School, Stanley Road, Teddington, for the Education Committee of the County Council of Middlesex, from plans prepared by Mr. H. G. Crotthall, F.R.I.B.A., county architect :—Farris Bros., Acton, W., £13,584 (recommended for acceptance); Dickens, W. J., Ealing, W., £13,750; Bollom, G., Acton, W., £13,760; Daley, W., & Co., Acton, W., £14,100; Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn Lane, W.10, £14,325; Challis, G., Brentford, Middlesex, £14,346; Monk, A., Lower Edmonton, N., £14,390; Knight, H., & Son, Tottenham, N., £14,416; Laeey, W., Hounslow, £14,736; Lawrence, W., & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury Square, E.C., £14,747; Newby, C. J., & Bros., Southgate, N., £14,815; Gaze, W. H., & Sons, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames, £15,623; Plastow, E., & Sons, Ltd., Southall, Middlesex, £16,550.

THE ARCHITECT

JUNE 13, 1924.

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R.A. 1924. PROPOSED WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL AT DURHAM SCHOOL. W. H. BREARLEY and J. H. RUTHERFORD, Architects.

value. Teaching is laborious work, involving special talents, and a practising architect is usually unwise if he attempts to fill in the want. The alternative is to take "improvers" for short terms, or to employ assistants and pay them salaries. In the case of the improver the architect is less tied than he is in the case of the pupil, but still any business relationship which is not specifically paid is apt to lead to misunderstandings. The improver probably remembers or imagines that Mr. A. has told him he will employ him as an assistant later on when he has gained more experience, and he is, to use an Americanism, "disgruntled" if this does not come to pass.

The average architect is therefore wise in his own interests if he does as much of his own work as he can and pays for the rest. He is then clear of liabilities.

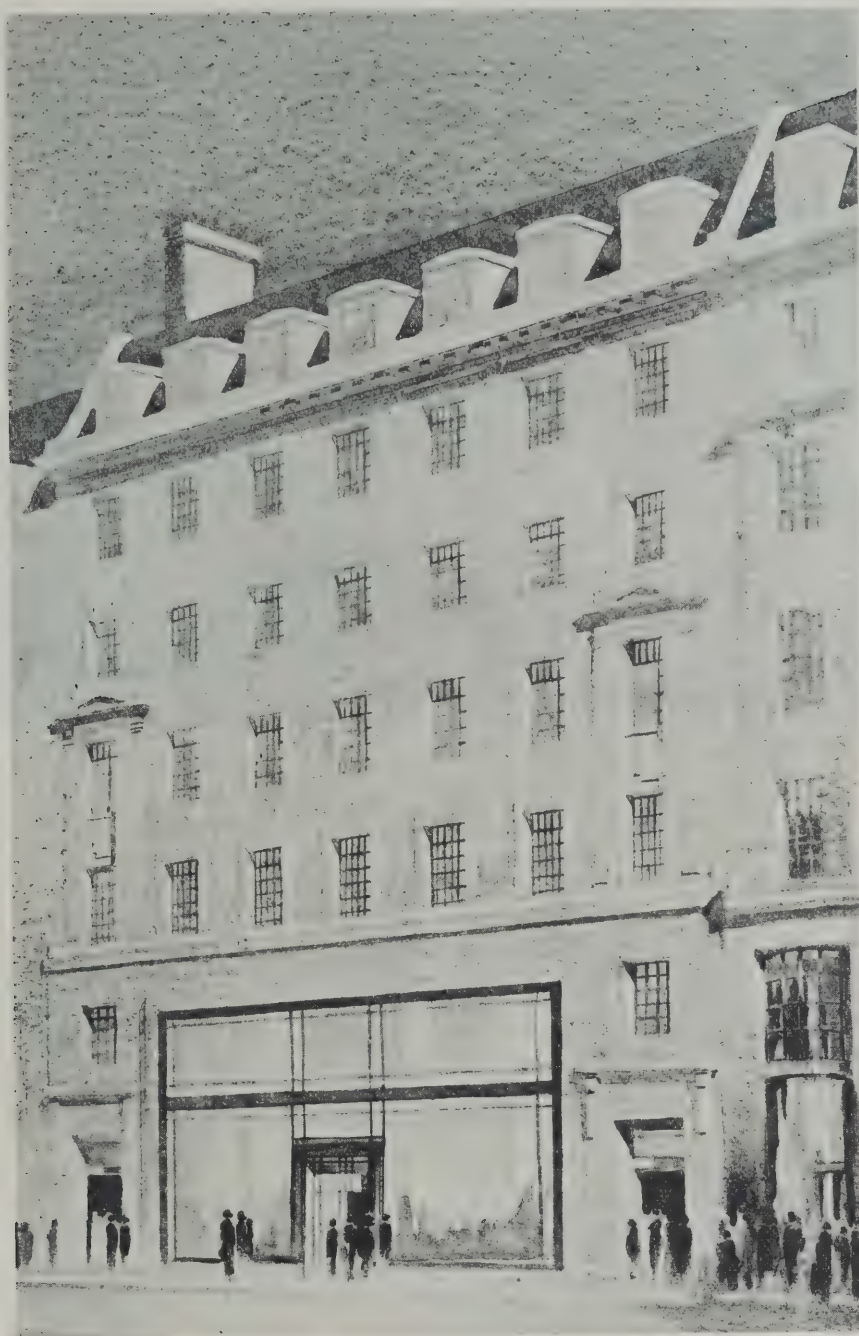
But we regard it as very difficult—if not impossible—for architectural societies to attempt to legislate as to whether their members should take pupils, how many they should take, and what time they should

allow them for work in schools or other educational experience. It seems to us to be a case where the pupil's relatives or the pupil himself should make his own arrangement, just as we believe the salary paid to an assistant to be a matter of private arrangement rather than of scale. If an architect has much remunerative work and wants good assistance, the assistant can naturally make a better arrangement than he can with an architect having less remunerative work and more time at his disposal. These questions cannot be settled in accordance with rigid scales, for the man who has several chances open to him will naturally take the best, while those with no resources and only a single chance may be forced to accept lower terms.

Those at the head of an Architectural Society may with justice and reason urge its members to take few pupils or none at all, but that seems to us all that is reasonable or practicable. Such a body as the Union may reasonably recommend its members to stand out for certain terms, but no force on earth will prevent



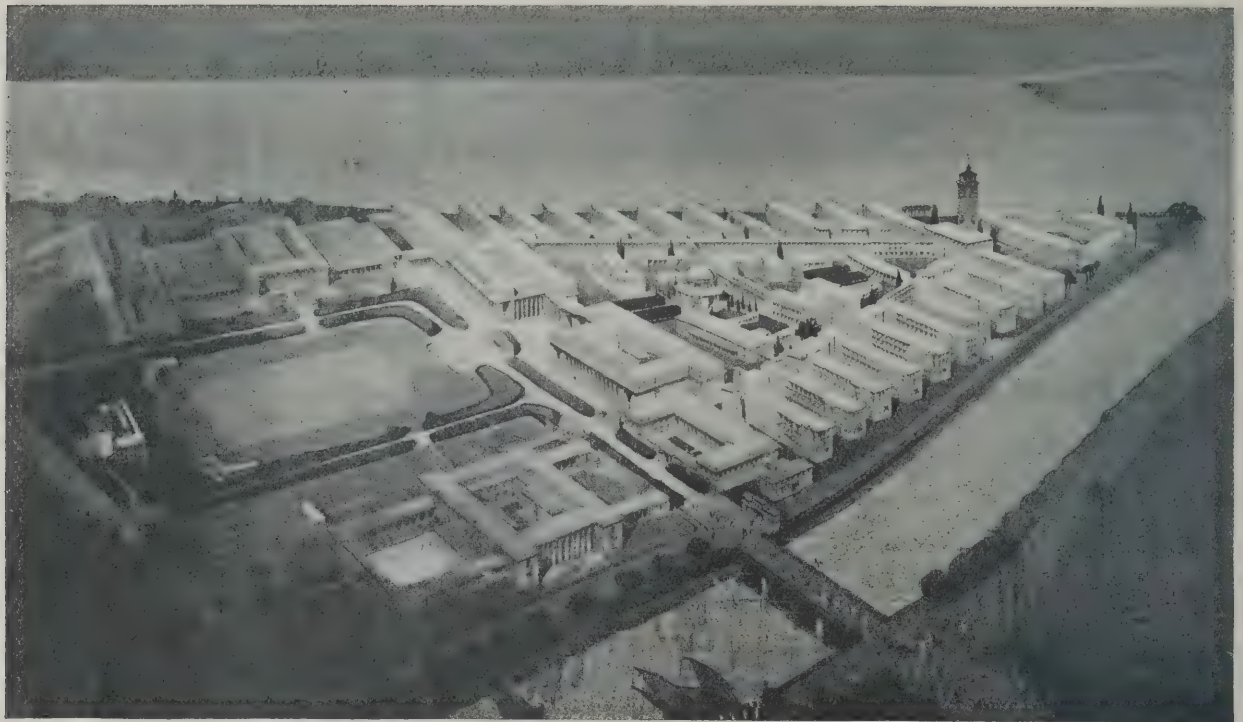
R.A. 1924. FARRINGTONS GIRLS' SCHOOL, CHISLEHURST, KENT. C. M. CRICKMER and A. FOXLEY, Architects.



R.A. 1924. PROPOSED NEW PREMISES, JERMYN STREET, S.W. G. THRALE JELL, Architect.

the assistant who has no resources from accepting the best chance open to him, and no force on earth can compel an architect to offer terms which he cannot afford. In other words, rules and scales are only possible when they closely approximate to the inexorable conditions imposed by the laws of demand and supply, the pivot on which all human activities are centred. Benevolent politicians fixed a minimum wage for the agricultural labourer, but could not force the farmers to pay more than they could afford for labour, with the result that hardships rather than benefit accrued to the agricultural labourer. A more benevolent and altruistic Government may possibly propose to subsidise industries and even arts in the interests of the worker who is worthy of his hire, but its funds are drawn from the taxpayer and not provided by the politician, who obtains free first-class fares to his constituency, plus £400 a year, and perhaps some Government office in addition. In plain words, the taxpayer, and not the generous and altruistic politician, foots the bill.

It must not be assumed from what we say that we do not appreciate the assistant's services or have no understanding of his difficulties. We have both appreciation and understanding, but we know from experience that most architects have not the fortune to have one paying job after another. Like Pharoah's kine, they have the lean times as well as their seasons of prosperity, and if they are not economical when they spend the proceeds of the last they are often broken on the rocks themselves. Architecture is a most interesting calling, but those who practise it often have careers as chequered with hard times and failure as that of the gold digger. They may strike what seems a rich reef and find it peters out unexpectedly. They frequently attain success a decade or two too late, and arrive on the borders of the Promised Land only to be overtaken by the inevitable end of all humanity. The success which we see from a distance often proves a golden mirage when we come closer, and the height of peaks of attainment are falsely estimated by most of us. We are mostly born to



R.A. 1924. CAIRO HOSPITAL. LANCHESTER LUCAS & LODGE, Architects.

trouble, and our most precious possession is that spirit of hope which sustains us in spite of the lessons of experience.

We hope the members of the Union will meet with success in deterring aspirants from treading the road which is so difficult, and we think it should be made a penal offence to encourage anyone to take up the calling of architecture. Those who are committed to the profession have our sympathy, and we hope they may find the interest of the occupation affords compen-

sation for its undoubted scarcity of paying nuggets. Those who make money sometimes do not do it in the strict confines of their professional avocations, like an architect we heard of who made £20,000 by transporting some old iron chains up to Klondike in the early days of the gold rush, but few of us combine with our professional knowledge the sure instinct of the adventurer. When they do we can but admire their talent and wish we possessed their instinct.

Our Illustrations.

R.A. 1924. ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, HAMMERSMITH. ROBERT ATKINSON, Architect.

CHRIST CHURCH ARCADIA, PRETORIA: EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR VIEWS. HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., Architect.

Notes and Comments.

Peasant Art in Switzerland.

"The Studio" have brought out an interesting volume on "Peasant Art in Switzerland," forming a volume of some 76 pages profusely illustrated with photographic reproductions and drawings, and published at 7s. 6d. The four previous volumes of this series have been devoted to Sweden, Lapland, Iceland, Austro-Hungary, Italy and Russia. The work shown is interesting as giving a very clear idea of what is likely to be produced by a people the great majority of whom never acquire the wealth accumulated in greater countries by the successful few, whose means have enabled them to become patrons of artists. It is also interesting because from its geographical position Switzerland has been exposed to the very diverse influences of Italian, French and German art. Of these Southern German influence has probably been the strongest, but what has determined the general character of its architecture has doubtless been climate and the necessity of building in wood. The average Swiss chalet is a direct expression of the art of the carpenter sometimes aided by the efforts of the painter. Carving remains for the most part of the simplest character, for in a poor country the employment

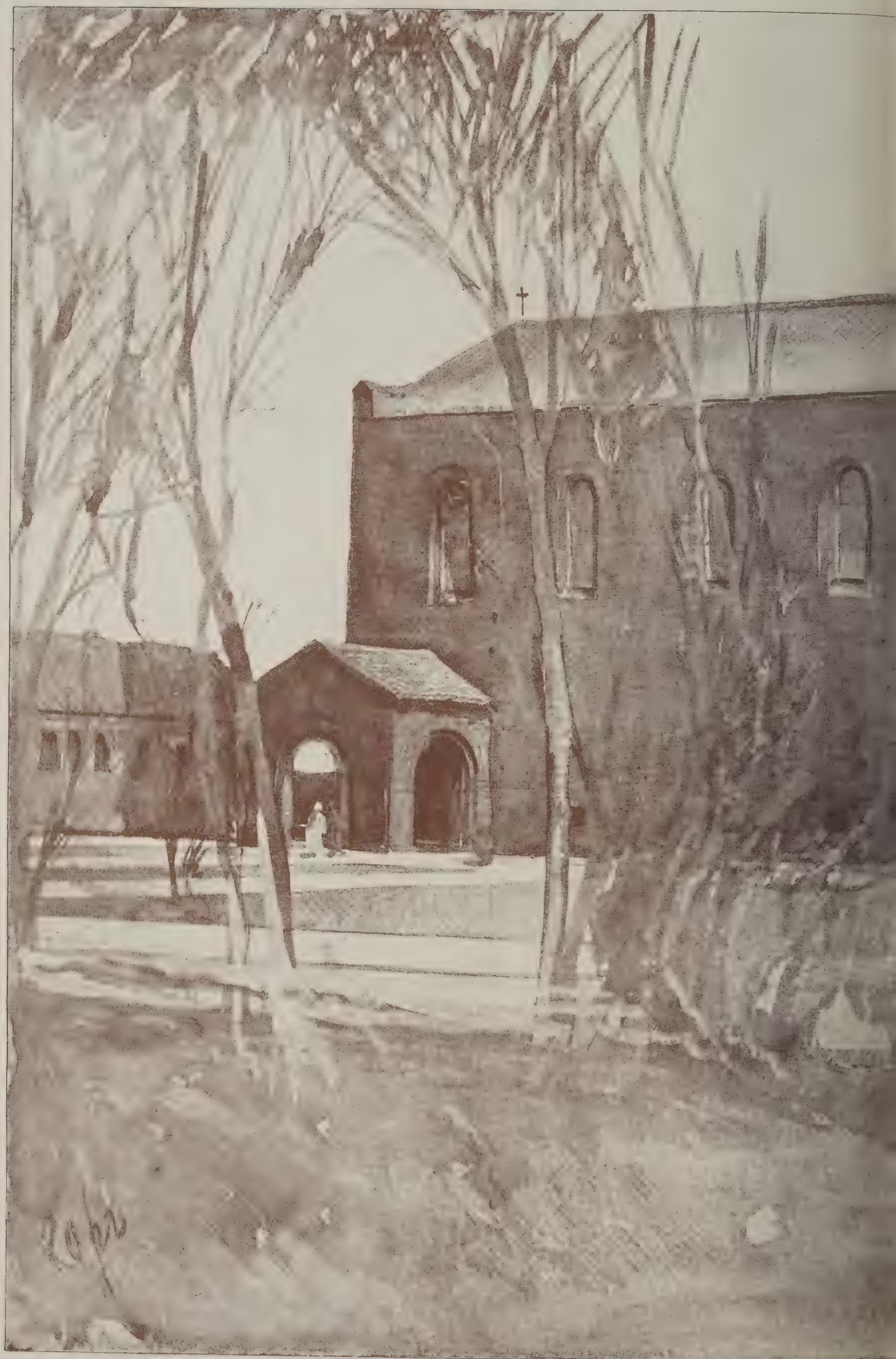
of specialists is naturally limited. In the minor decorative arts the Swiss frequently attain a very pleasant character of quaintness and interest, as the illustrations of furniture and embroidery show. Of Swiss art we may say it will never be copied, as it is only suited for its peculiar environment and suiting it as it does so well it is never likely to be abandoned for foreign ideals by the Swiss.

Uncompensated Enemy Damage.

By MR. ESMOND HARMSWORTH.

We have a pamphlet, which has been reprinted from "The English Review," in which he states the hard case of those whose property suffered damage from the enemy during the late war. The Royal Commission appointed has done very little and has been 5½ years in doing it. The burden of the necessary investigation fell on the Reparations Claims Department of the Board of Trade. They were originally to dispense a sum of £5,000,000 on account, and their total findings on account amount to £7,223,360, omitting the sum which Germany is to pay for general reparations. The result is that applicants are now told that amounts that should be given as instalments are in

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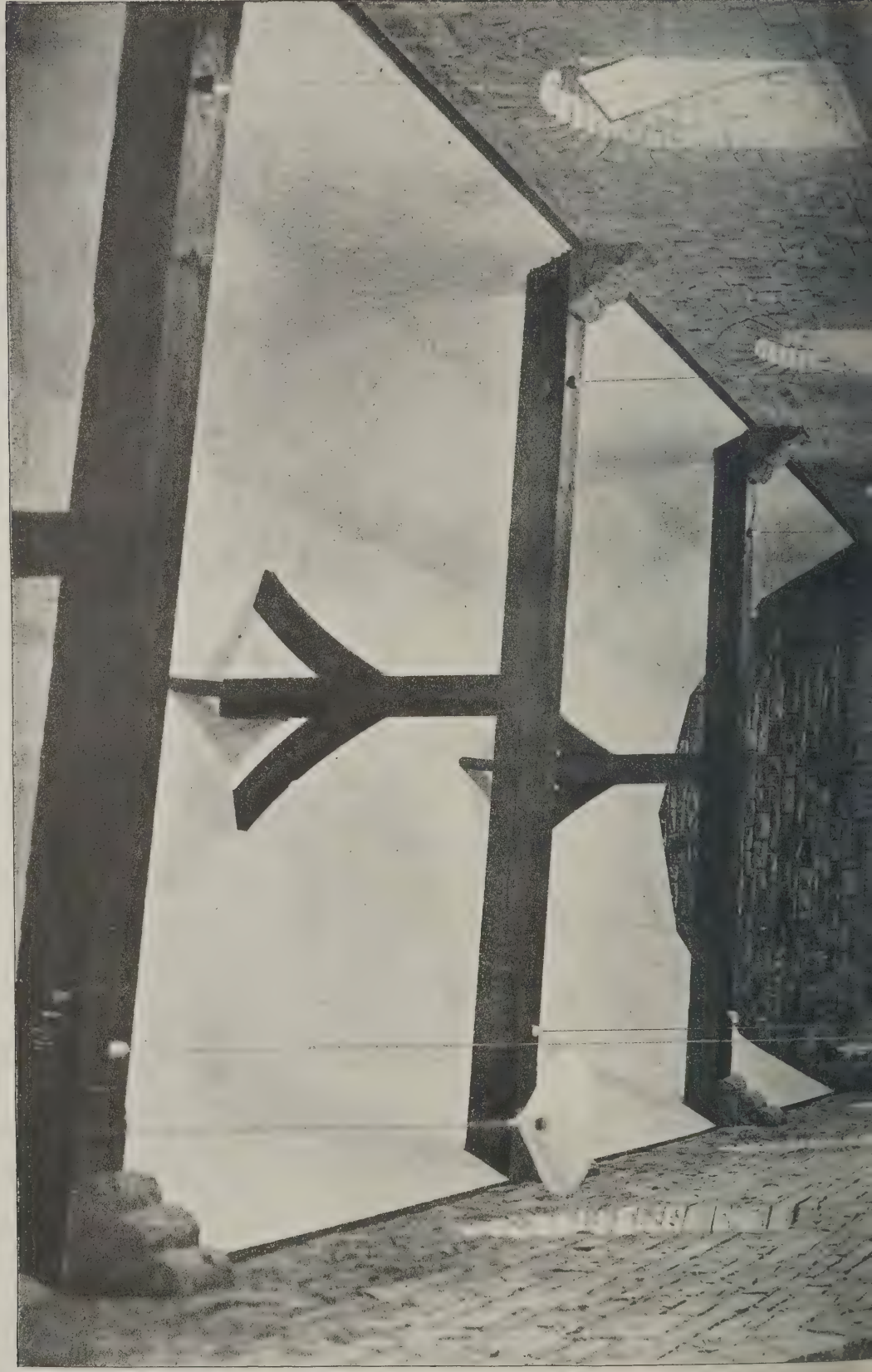
RHODIA, PRETORIA.

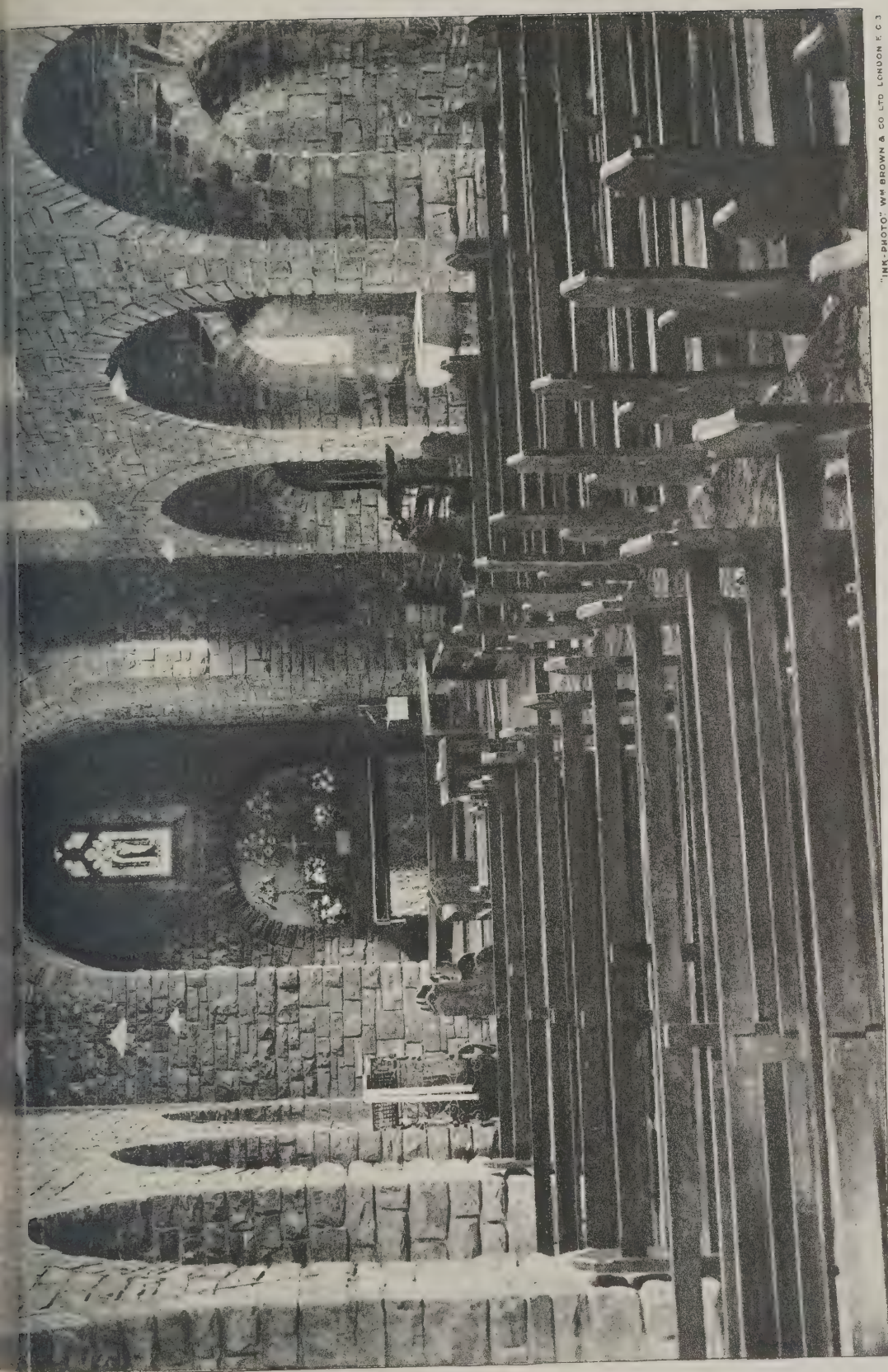
A.I.A., ARCHITECT.

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CHRIST CHURCH, ARCADIA, PRETORIA.

HERBERT BAKER, A.R.A., ARCHITECT.

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final payment, while many claims such as those for property damaged during air raids have been altogether exempted. We are not surprised at Mr. Harmsworth's indignation, but the same thing very frequently happens in all English dealings with the claims of its subjects, and over and over again it would seem to be necessary to be an alien enemy to obtain the best terms from our government.

Housing.

The "Spectator" writes on housing, condemning the newest proposal, which it states will make matters worse instead of better because it will finally freeze out private enterprise. The writer goes on to say:—

Our view of the whole matter is so pathetically plain that we hardly dare to set it down. It is that we shall not get the houses we need except by building more of them, and we shall not get more houses unless we have more people ready and willing to build them and also provide a greater store of material. And again, we shall not get the houses if we let ourselves be frightened by the bogies either of the Capitalists or of the Trade Unions. It is folly to let ourselves be frightened by the thought of the dreadful things that may happen when the houses are built and the extra men employed to build them will be thrown out of work, or by the thought that the money spent on building will bring the nation to bankruptcy. Those who talk with bated breath about the dangers seem to forget that there are other and even greater dangers in doing nothing. If we do not get the people of this country properly housed, we shall soon have conditions here which will not merely cause, but justify, revolution.

Even if we find the expense of getting out of the slough into which Mr. Lloyd George led us by his Land Taxation proposals (for that is the original fount of trouble) an appalling burden, we shall get into far worse financial difficulties through attempting to live upon such nostrums as Rent Restriction Acts.

We are individualists and supporters of the principles of Free Exchange, but in the situation in which we find ourselves we are prepared to advocate direct State action in the way of building. We would create a Housing Commission, not for talk or inquiry, but for the direct and immediate building of emergency houses. The first thing that the Commission would have to do would be to recruit workers, and to recruit them from the unemployed and not by drawing them away from the normal and commercial building trade. What we propose is not dilution, but the calling to the colours of industry the hundred thousand men or more by which the Workers' Houses Industry is now short. But how are they to be trained? Our answer is: Proceed, as we did in the War, by assuming that except in certain special crafts training in the strict sense is unnecessary. We have designedly spoken of "*emergency houses*" because we want the work to be done as quickly and as cheaply as possible. Therefore we would not build the houses in brick, or even in concrete, but as a rule in wood. And we would have them built to a standard pattern in which fresh air, warmth and comfort would be thought of more than beauty. We would have the doors and windows of a standard size, turned out by machinery, as would also be the framework of the houses, in order that they might be very quickly put together, not on brick, but on concrete foundations. Any man can quickly learn to pour concrete.

We are in agreement with the writer, as we cannot see that the cost of houses recently built can ever be met. Nor do we think that houses so carried out need be hideous or unsightly. It matters far more how they are placed in relation to each other and to the landscape than on the individual design of each house. We are more and more impressed with the fact that architects as a whole need to give far more study than they hitherto have done to the subject of site, regional and town planning.

Is a Bath Really Wanted?

We are told that there is only one fixed bath in 151 houses in Salisbury Street, Bermondsey, and this is used for old clothes. Unless the inhabitants patronise municipal establishments one would be inclined to think their condition was deplorable. We have often wondered whether in the smaller and poorer classes of houses it would not be better to introduce shower baths in place of the ordinary bath, as they take up far less space and use far less water than an ordinary bath and are also more efficient for cleansing purposes. In American towns where free bathing establishments are provided it is a rule that anyone wishing

to use the swimming bath should first stand under a shower bath, and it is found that the water of the plunge bath needs infrequent renewal. In an ordinary warm slipper bath one may remain in dirty water for the comfort of the heat, whereas in a shower bath a smaller amount of water is used, and all the water in contact with the body is clean and fresh. This is certainly a point which is worthy of consideration in cases where economy is of paramount importance.

Book Reviews.

"Small Houses for the Community." By C. H. James and F. R. Yerbury. London: Crosby Lockwood & Son, Stationers' Hall Court. 31s. 6d. net.

This is an interesting and very well illustrated volume which gives selections from work carried out within recent years at Dover, Folkestone, Shepherd's Bush, Ruislip, Welwyn, Wembley, Dormanstown, Kennington, Winchester, Earswick, Banbury, Swanpool, Sutton Bridge, and a few other housing schemes, together with a few plates of contemporary foreign examples, some detail drawings and an appendix giving the working drawings, specifications and quantities for a group of 14 houses at Welwyn Garden City. The strong impression made by the examples illustrated is that the architect is fortunate when his clients do not object to the planning of houses in rows or groups, for they can by skilful arrangement be given a character impossible in the case of the detached or semi-detached cottage the effect of which generally fails because of the requirements necessitated by strict economy and by the small size of the units. It is because of their grouping rather than of individual excellence that many an old village charms us and it should be as far as possible the object of a designer to recreate opportunities which can only be given by skilfully contrived juxtaposition. It is also doubtful—except in the remotest parts of the country—whether the average individual requires or can adequately use much garden space, while the preservation of entirely open spaces between groups of buildings rather than the even division of land into large plots should be the object to be attempted.

The object of the book is to show some of the best that has been done rather than to attack the insoluble problem of demonstrating how the much-maligned work of the small speculator of the past can be replaced on economic lines by any other system.

"An Architectural Pilgrimage in Old Mexico." By Alfred C. Bossom. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. £4 4s. net.

This book is illustrated by a series of 110 plates, chiefly photographic, taken from points selected by the author. His thesis which opens a short introduction to the volume is that the work of Old Mexico is a better basis for modern American architecture than the more formal forms of Renaissance design. He is, we think, a little too much inclined to think of Mexican architecture as being an American style having strong affinities with the work of earlier races, whereas all the illustrations we have ever seen would lead us to describe it as being a type of Spanish Baroque modified, as all architecture is, by having been carried out by craftsmen trained in another and different form of art.

Spanish forms were not varied to the same extent as the work of the Mohammedan conquerors of India was modified by Hindu craftsmen and artist. The latter did produce architecture which is wholly unlike that of other Mohammedan types, but the Mexican work illustrated is not, but is what we should expect in a land separated from European sojourners in a new land. The use of richly decorated features in otherwise plain buildings is a typically Spanish characteristic; the occasional free and exotic note in decoration is simply the result of the freedom given to native craftsmen. Similar influences were at work in Goa and Macao and elsewhere wherever Spaniards or Portuguese had to carry out work on foreign soil.

With Mr. Bossom's argument that the freedom and fancy of the design shown afford a good precedent for American design we have considerable sympathy.

American architects have shown how well they can understand and use such precedents in houses in Florida and California—once parts of the "New Spain." It is doubtless true that the same inspirations might be usefully evoked in dealing with some great business and commercial buildings, for the Baroque forms employed are of the singularly picturesque and effective, while consistent with dignity of general form and design.

Spanish art was never formalised by the despotism of a Louis XIV, for fanaticism found its metier in a more restricted field and Spanish design often has a fancy and freedom which may be traced back to Moorish influences. Mr. Bossom's book gives us a vision of picturesqueness of form and fancy, and for that reason should be of use as well as a corrective to the dogmatism often characteristic of the pupils of a set school like those trained under the aegis of L'Ecole des Beaux Arts.

Door-Knockers.

BY CHARLES G. HARPER.



THE SANCTUARY KNOCKER,
DURHAM CATHEDRAL.

"More broken pans, more gods, more mugs;
More snivel bottles, jordan, and old jugs;
More saucepans, lamps, and candlesticks, and kettles.

Old nails, old knockers, and old shoes,
Old mats, old dish-clouts, dripping-pans, and spits,
To prove delectable to other nits;
Gods' legs, and legs of old joint-stools,
To ravish all our antiquarian schools."

There is a very considerable literature on the subject of door-knockers, for these once very necessary articles—necessary before the days of door-bells, mechanical and electric—date back to very ancient times; and a great deal of thought, of artistic craftsmanship, has at various periods been expended upon them. But it is an obscure and very scattered literature, for the subject, although one of much curious lore, is a "little" one, full of preciousness and out-of-the-way information, not easily accessible. It is a literature, not precisely of books, but of archæological papers and stray articles by enthusiasts in the byways of arts and crafts.

The subject ranges from the eleventh and twelfth centuries up to the present day, and includes monastic and sanctuary knockers. We have even knockers that were in use in Pompeii close upon two thousand years ago; when, as it would appear from the evidence of these relics, that as much care and artistic endeavour went to the fashioning of them as in the Italy of the Renaissance.

If you would seek to grace the writing of books or papers upon the subject of knockers with literary allusion, there is no lack of material, from the Bible to Shakespeare, Dickens, Thackeray and George Eliot. There is a vast deal about knocking in Shakespeare, for instance, notably in "Macbeth":—

PORTER: "Here's a knocking, indeed! If a man were porter of hell-gate, he should have old turning the key. [Knocking.] Knock, knock, knock: Who's there, i' the name of Beelzebub? Here's a farmer, that hanged himself on the expectation of plenty: Come in time: have napkins enough about you; here you'll sweat for't. [Knocking.] Knock, knock: who's there, i' the other devil's name? 'Faith, here's an equivocator, that could swear in both the scales against either scale; who committed treason enough for God's sake, yet could not equivocate to Heaven; O, come in, equivocator. [Knocking.] Knock, knock, knock.

Who's there? Faith, here's an English tailor come hither, for stealing out of a French hose: Come in, tailor: here you may roast your goose. [Knocking.] Knock, knock: never at quiet! What are you?—But this place is too cold for hell. I'll devil-porter it no farther: I had thought to have let in some of all professions, that go the primrose way to the everlasting bonfire. [Knocking.] Anon, anon; I pray you, remember the porter." [Opens the gate.]

There is a remarkably ineffectual knocker in Dickens's "Martin Chuzzlewit"; at Mrs. Gamp's lodgings on the first floor, in Kingsgate Street, Holborn (now swept away, with the modern Kingsway on the site of it). She "was easily assailed at night by pebbles, walking-sticks, and fragments of tobacco-pipes, all much more efficacious than the street-door knocker, which was so constructed as to wake the street with ease, and even spread alarms of fire in Holborn, without making the smallest impression on the premises to which it was addressed."

Our most ancient door-knockers in England, still upon the doors to which originally they were affixed, are the "sanctuary knockers," actual and so-called, belonging to cathedrals and churches. There they are yet; although the privilege and right of sanctuary ceased, generally speaking, when the Reformation under Henry VIII swept away religious and monastic encroachments upon the law of the land. Yet sanctuary was not abolished by statute at that time, and it lingered in various forms and places, partially, until the second year of James I, when various scandals connected with criminals resorting to Whitefriars grew intolerable and called aloud for suppression. Whitefriars, London—that region where certain daily newspapers now carry on their activities—was an area where criminal licence raged rampant. It was, as Sir Walter Scott well describes it, "Alsatia."

Nor even then, by that statute of James I, were all these extra-legal "peculiarities" abolished; and it needed other Acts—8 and 9 William III, and 9 George I—to make away with those few other spots where the King's writ commonly did not run: the Mint, Stepney, etc. And then, and then only, the olden anomalies ceased to be.

A curious relic still remains upon the north porch door of the cathedral at Durham, in the form of a huge knocker, dating back to Norman times. Cast in the form of a grinning monster's head, a ring hanging from its jaws, it is the identical sanctuary knocker of St. Cuthbert's sanctuary, which was in use from the foundation of the cathedral until 1524. All fugitives, whatever their crimes, who succeeded in escaping to Durham, and reaching the bounds of "St. Cuthbert's Peace," were safe from molestation during thirty-seven days. A criminal grasping the ring of this knocker could not be torn from it by his pursuers, under pain of their being subjected to excommunication; and lest there should be those bold spirits whom even this could not affright, there were always two monks stationed, day and night, in a room above the porch, to watch for fugitives. When admitted, the criminal confessed his crime, with every circumstance attending it; his confession being taken down in writing, in the presence of witnesses; a bell ringing in the Galilee Tower, all the while, giving notice that someone had fled to the protection of St. Cuthbert. After these formalities the fugitive was clothed with a black gown, bearing on the left shoulder a yellow cross, the badge of the saint whose succour he had thus obtained. After the thirty-seven days of grace had expired, and in the event of no pardon being obtained, ceremonies were enacted before the shrine of the saint, in which the malefactor solemnly foreswore his native land for ever. Then, safeguarded to the coast, he was shipped out of the kingdom by the first vessel sailing. There must have been many an exciting chase in those times; and many a criminal who richly deserved punishment must have thus escaped it by the very skin of his teeth. Many another, no doubt, was seized and handed over to justice, or slain, on the very threshold of safety. Other fugitives



SANCTUARY KNOCKER, STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

still—and here St. Cuthbert appears in better guise than as a protector of assassins—the victims of hatred and oppression, private or political, claimed the saintly ægis, and so escaped the vengeance of their enemies. So, looking upon that ferociously grinning mask of the knocker, glaring with eyeless sockets upon Palace Green, we can reconstruct the olden times, when, at his last gasp, the flying wretch seized the ring, and so came into safety. By night the scene was more impressive still, for there were crystals then in those sockets, and a lamp burning behind; so that the fugitive could see his haven from afar, and make for it. To-day St. Cuthbert avails no man, as the county gaol and the Assize Courts sufficiently prove. It is recorded that, between the years 1464 and 1524, sanctuary was afforded



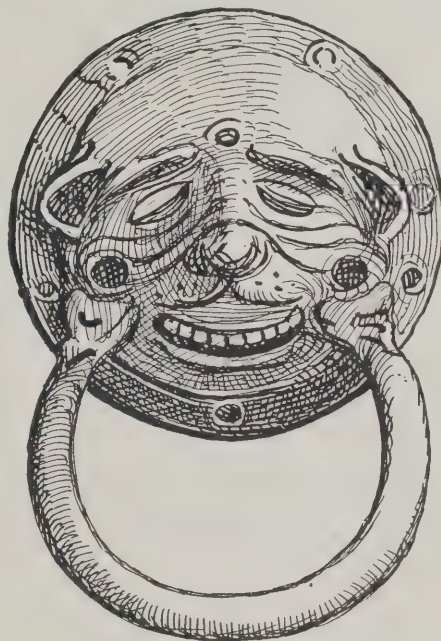
THE SANCTUARY KNOCKER, ST. NICHOLAS, GLOUCESTER.

to no fewer than 247 persons. It may be added that antiquaries trace the well-known children's game, "Touch," to this practice of sanctuary.

There are numerous ancient door-knockers on the doors of churches commonly called "sanctuary knockers," but it is not to be supposed that the right of sanctuary was accorded to churches so freely as this would suggest. Very curiously, there is in Essex, at Lindsell, near the Dunmow and Great Yeldham road, a farmhouse called "Brazen Head Farm." The house itself is not ancient, but it occupied the site of one of great antiquity on whose door for ages hung a knocker very like that at Durham, just described. The knocker remained on the rebuilt house until about 1900, when it was taken away, and is now to be found in the British Museum. The ancient history of Brazen Head Farm does not appear to be known.

"Sanctuary knockers," so called, are to be seen at St. Gregory's Church, Norwich, and at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-on-Avon, where copies of it are among the many objects marketed in that town of much tourist resort. Although affixed to a fifteenth-century door, it would seem to be of thirteenth century date.

And there is a very curious one on the north porch door of St. Nicholas, Westgate, Gloucester. It appears to be of early fifteenth century date, and is of a highly grotesque nature, resembling the misericorde carvings of that period seen in the stall-seats of cathedrals and collegiate churches. The subject is a fiend carrying away the soul of a witch



THE BRAZENNOSE KNOCKER.

to the infernal regions. It is somewhat of a "puzzle" nature, for it is not fully comprehended until looked at upside-down.

Not less remarkable in its own way than the sanctuary knocker is the curious antique now to be seen in Hall, at Brasenose College, Oxford. It is the Brazen Nose of those early university days when the College was merely "Brazen Nose Hall." In those times the Hall was an unquiet scholastic establishment, partly of northern, and in part of southern, students, who quarrelled and bickered continuously. Many derivations have been offered of the odd name of "Brasenose;" but there seems no reason to doubt that the Hall was originally so named from the weird bronze knocker which then decorated its portal, and is now treasured within. We may thus, perhaps, discard the "brassenhuis," or "brewhouse," theory of the origin of the name.

In 1260, as a result of these long quarrels, a number of the students seceded, and migrating at first to Northampton, and then, in 1333, to Stamford, set up a new Brasenose centre of study, in connection with a small university then existing in that town. For a while they

prospered, and so considerably that their well-being aroused the jealousy of Oxford town and university, alarmed at this and other impending secessions. They jointly petitioned the King to suppress the university of Stamford, and at the same time the universities of Oxford and Cambridge agreed not to recognise any degrees conferred at Stamford. These tactics they employed so successfully that this seat of learning was abolished; and incidentally the Brasenose seceders were haled back in 1463. The buildings, however, remained at Stamford, and on the door of them the knocker which had been taken away from Oxford. There, strangely enough, it remained until 1890, when, in order to secure it, Brasenose College, Oxford, purchased the property and removed the relic. It will be noticed that there is a not remote likeness between

tirle-pin, however, is enshrined in Scottish ballad-poetry, in "Sweet Robin's Ghaist," in the lines:

"There came a ghaist to Margaret's door,
Wi' mony a grievous groan;
And aye he tirl'd upon the pinne,
But answer made she nane."

Hard-hearted Margaret! Or, perhaps, rather, poor terrified Margaret.

That door-knockers were sufficiently common in France at an early date, we may see from this quaint little picture of a gentleman knocking at a door, copied from a French mediæval manuscript, and a French metrical romance of the twelfth century has a mention of knockers, in this wise, from *Li Romans de Berte aus grans piés*, that is to say, "The Romance of Bertha of the Big Feet":—

*Bien sembloit l'héritage de vieil antiquité,
Cele part est alée s'a à l'uisset hurté,
D'un maillet qui là peut a sus l'uis assené.*

Let us attempt a free rendition of this queer and crabbed old French verse into English rhyme:

"There bravely rose the hermitage
A ruin bare, of hoar antiquity;
All shivered, crack'd and rent with age,
A home for bats and owls to be.
The knocker gone which hung upon its door
Whose heavy sound shall echo there no more."

In more primitive fashion, in less exalted circles, according to Chaucer, writing in the fourteenth century, the common way of announcing your presence, and of desiring admission, was to

"Clipe at the door, or knocke with a stone"



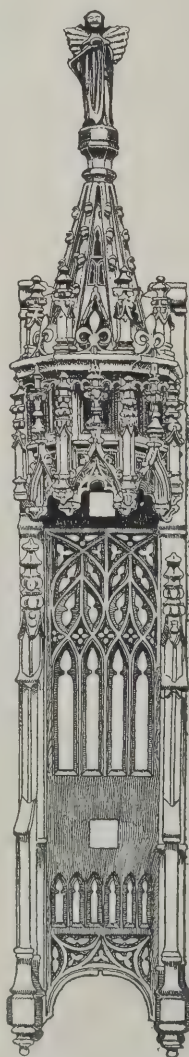
GENTLEMAN KNOCKING AT A DOOR.

FROM A FRENCH METRICAL ROMANCE.

this knocker and that at the Cathedral of Le Puy en Velay—a twelfth-century work.

Scotland long employed the "tirle-pin" on its door instead of the knocker. It originated in France, in the times of the Valois. It was not considered to be etiquette to knock at doors in or outside the palace of the king; and so courtiers scratched at them instead with their finger nails. If you will but try this, it will be found a very unpleasant sensation; and so in course of time—partly, too, because the scratching was not sufficiently loud—what the Scots, later, called the "tirle-pin" was introduced. It passed into Scotland probably about the time of Mary Queen of Scots, who brought over with her from France many French ways. But France and Scotland ever had been on friendly terms.

The tirle-pin simply carried on the tradition of scratching at the door, but it employed a mechanical means, instead of the finger nails. It was a wrought iron rod, twisted and clamped on to the door, or more generally to the side of it, with an iron ring that was rasped up and down. This produced a kind of super-scratching. Many of the old houses in Edinburgh were provided with tirle-pins, but there are not any now in use; the last has gone to that resort of the out-of-date, the Museum of the Society of Scottish Antiquaries. The



GROUP OF ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON, FRENCH:
CHISELLED IN FIFTEENTH CENTURY.



FROM THE PISANI PALACE, VENICE.

—methods that would not commend themselves in our own more polished and well-furnished times.

French knockers are more frequently of iron, chiselled : often very beautiful, alike in design and workmanship. Their character is chiefly architectonic, little tabernacles containing figures often of an armorial nature. The most beautiful of such knockers is that here shown, with the canopy and the knocker itself separately illustrated, the knocker exhibiting a most spirited group of St. George and the Dragon. It is one of the finest works in this genre of the fifteenth century. The charming little sixteenth-century knocker from Lyons is at the other extreme from the mediævalism of the St. George, and is one of the more dainty fancies of the French Renaissance ; while the seventeenth-century specimen, a hand, puts to shame the clumsy English knockers of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries with the very favourite hand motive.

In the Museum at South Kensington there are many examples of antique knockers : French, Italian, German, and a few English, purchased at prices ranging from £80 and £50 down to £1 ls. Although many among these are

of ostentatious design, they are generally of clumsy workmanship. Very much is attempted in these Italian knockers ; generally designed in groups telling some story of classic times, or displaying graces and amorini. Some, however, are merely grotesque *mélanges*, as shown in this specimen at South Kensington, dated about 1570, purchased for £21. A knocker at the Pisani Palace, at Venice, reputedly by Cellini, displaying Neptune with two sea-horses, is a fine thing, but not, possibly, so fine as reasonably one might look for in Cellini's work. The dragon knocker

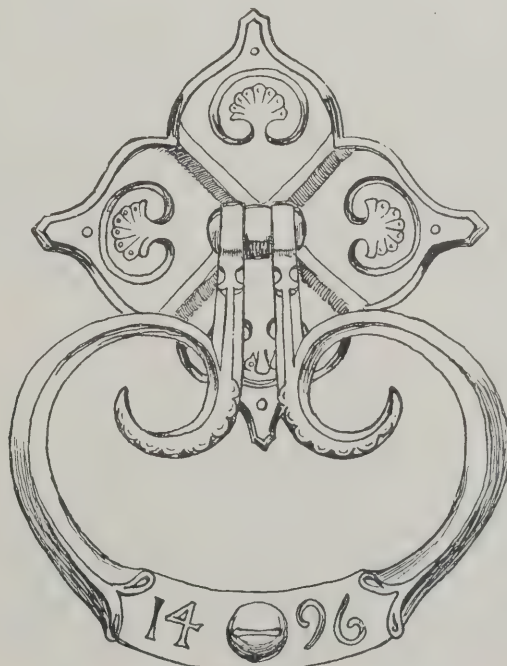


GERMAN IRON KNOCKER : SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

from Verona looks more of an intimidating than a welcoming object to a visitor.

Italian knockers we may sum up to be chiefly of bronze, of exquisite design, but generally of hurried finish and clumsy casting.

Old German knockers are chiefly of iron, and present a great similarity of design. A prominent type was that which had painted twirls of metal, resembling somewhat a moustache, as in the example illustrated here, from Nuremberg. Germany had very few ideas, and was content to reproduce the same motive for centuries. But, exceptionally, there is a sixteenth-century German type in copper, illustrated by an example in the Cluny Museum in Paris, which entirely breaks away from the common convention. It is dated 1563, and bears the inscription, "Klopan so mit dirafgsta n bit gege ben goris kouni." The design is of a lion's head, holding a purse.

FRENCH :
SIXTEENTH CENTURY.FROM VERONA :
IN THE SOUTH KENSINGTON
MUSEUM.

GERMAN : IRON, FIFTEENTH CENTURY.



DECORATIONS OF THE DERBY DANCE HALL. G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

THE PAY OFFICE, DERBY DANCE HALL.
G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

Correspondence

[The Editor will not be responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

Plays and Playhouses.

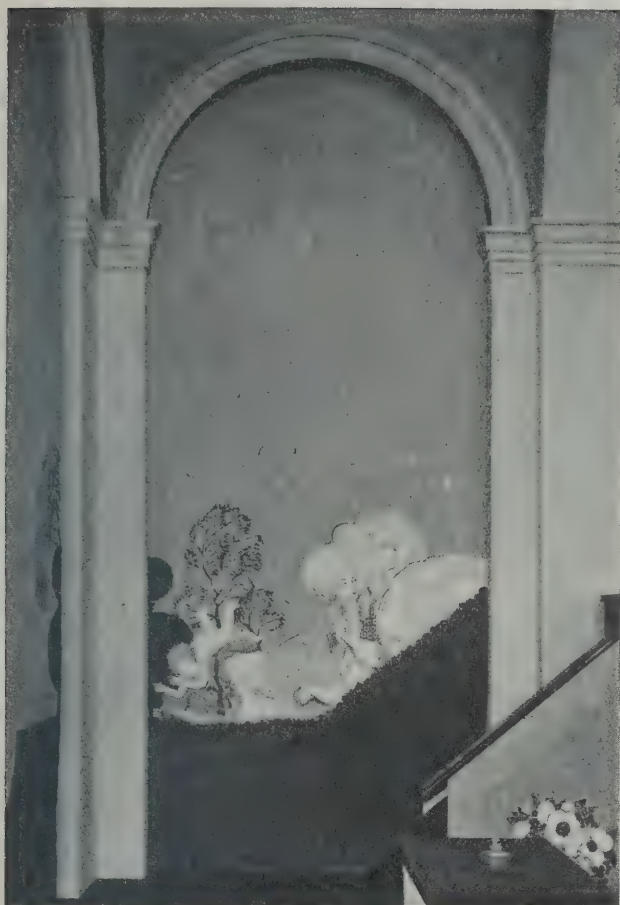
To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—Miss Defries has kindly sent me a further copy of her original lecture delivered during the recent Building Trades Exhibition at the Olympia, upon which I wrote a short criticism, which you published in your issue of May 9, to which Miss Defries replied in a letter published by you in your issue of May 23. When I wrote that Miss Defries' paper contained or "told

us nothing that we should not expect every member of the architectural profession to give every consideration to when attempting to design such a building" I referred to the first of the six distinct categories which Miss Defries mentioned when she was speaking from the point of view of the theatrical profession. She said: "First, the principal actors need good and separate accommodation, with a few bathrooms in addition to ordinary washing arrangements; and they need much better wardrobe accommodation for their own clothes as well as for those they wear on the stage. They need writing places and bookshelves, too. They need a green room in common. They also need a refreshment room where they can get quick meals served in comfort. All this must be well heated and also airy. But they are not the only people inside a theatre needing space, light, heat, air, and comfort.

"The understudies never know where to go: they can use the refreshment rooms and bathrooms set aside for the principals, but they need a rest room fitted up for study and indoor games, with lockers and wardrobe accommodation. All this accommodation needs to be well approached, so that these people do not have to wear themselves out running up and down stairs. And, above all, care should be taken to make these quarters draught-proof. Next, we must consider the minor workers for the stage: the small parts and the supers. I do not believe there is any industry to-day where the workers' accommodation is more shamefully neglected. I have been one of them myself and I know the horrible squalor of their surroundings in a theatre from personal experience.

"It is degrading. It is, to use a popular phrase, 'the limit.' They need good dressing rooms, with up-to-date washing arrangements and first-class lavatories, and plenty of them. They need one or two bathrooms, with hot and cold water. They need a recreation room and a sandwich bar, where they can always get good and cheap meals promptly served, at all hours. Nowadays, they have to go without food often, since they are not supposed to leave the theatre and have to depend on what they can get sent in haphazard, during the weeks and weeks of rehearsal. They have to spend at all times many hours doing nothing, and that is why they need a good and comfortable sitting room. Accommodation is needed for dressers and wardrobe, and all must be light, airy and heated; and as well decorated as funds will allow. In their case, too, thought should be given to passages and stairways, that these give the minimum of fatigue and are draught-proof. At the stage door there should be a sitting room for callers, where they can be received by their friends within the theatre. Offices are needed, well lighted, well heated, airy, with bookshelves and fitments for managers, directors and office staff, with lavatories and common room for these, and connection with the refreshment and rest rooms. All the stage hands also need a common room, for at present they are forced to spend all their spare time in the nearest public house. Great care should be taken to make the wings and approaches to the stage draught-proof.



STAIRCASE TO GALLERY, DERBY DANCE HALL.
G. G. WORNUM, Architect.

"The scene painters and the dressmakers and the carpenters need studios and workshops and connection with the rest rooms and refreshment rooms. The musicians need a waiting room that shall be warm and airy, and this, too, should connect with the common rooms. They also need wardrobe accommodation of a limited sort and private lockers." Miss Defries then proceeds in a like manner to describe the needs of the audience.

My contention was, and still is, that all the foregoing part of her speech which I have here quoted contains no new data which the architect who undertakes the design of such buildings is not well acquainted with. In fact, at times the lecturer lays such stress upon well-lighted, well-heated, airy, etc., that the professional might be inclined to resent these oft-repeated phrases as being in the nature of a reflection upon himself—as if he did nothing else but provide the exact contrary. I quite agree that it is the employer of the architect who needs enlightenment. And it is for his betterment that regulations should be made which will lay down the minimum accommodation such as the lecturer has indicated. She can have very little knowledge of the circumstances and conditions under which an architect works in relation to his client. The architect undoubtedly possesses all the knowledge of the facts and is well aware of the present unsatisfactory accommodation offered to the workers. But he cannot force his client to spend money and devote space to the needs of the actors and stage hands unless he is supported by regulations which absolutely demand the incorporation of a fixed minimum before the local authorities will pass the scheme.

An architect is not a free agent in a similar way as a painter or sculptor. He may be free as to the style of architecture he intends to use externally, and even the internal decorative scheme may be left to his choice, but beyond this the whole problem is governed by finance. A theatre is, perhaps, more than any other building, part and parcel of a business proposition. On the planning the success of everything depends, and I cannot picture the ordinary business combination who propose to build or have a theatre designed and built listening with respectful attention to the architect who wishes to allot considerable space to the comfort and welfare of the actors and general staff, specially if such accommodation will make inroads into the seating capacity of the theatre. Such an architect would certainly, were he to insist, be replaced by a more obliging professional.

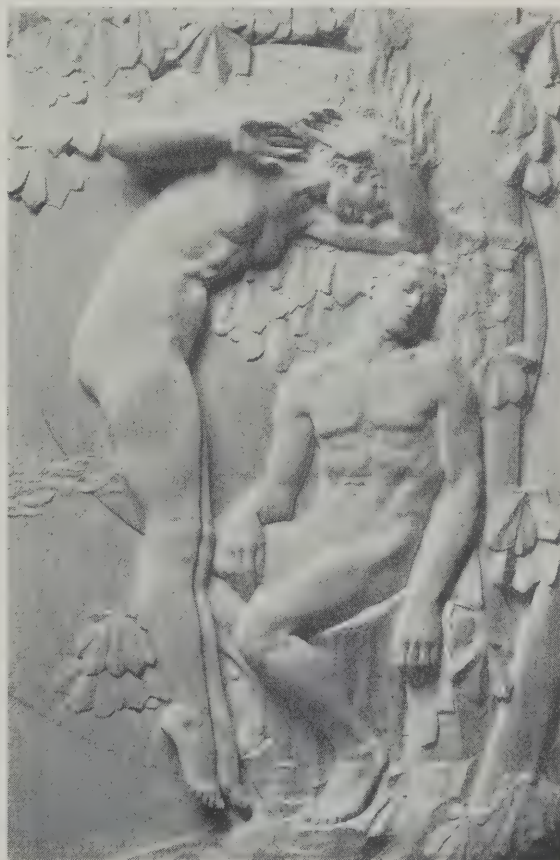
With regard to Miss Defries' reference to lighting in the theatre, I will quote from her speech: "As to lighting, this, too, is the architect's business. We have one theatre in London—I believe

only one—which has installed what is said to be all up-to-date lighting system, and this system comes direct from Germany. But we have inventors of our own. Why not use them? At Wembley the British Drama League is showing designs for a National Theatre, and Gordon Craig is showing a model. These will need to be studied."

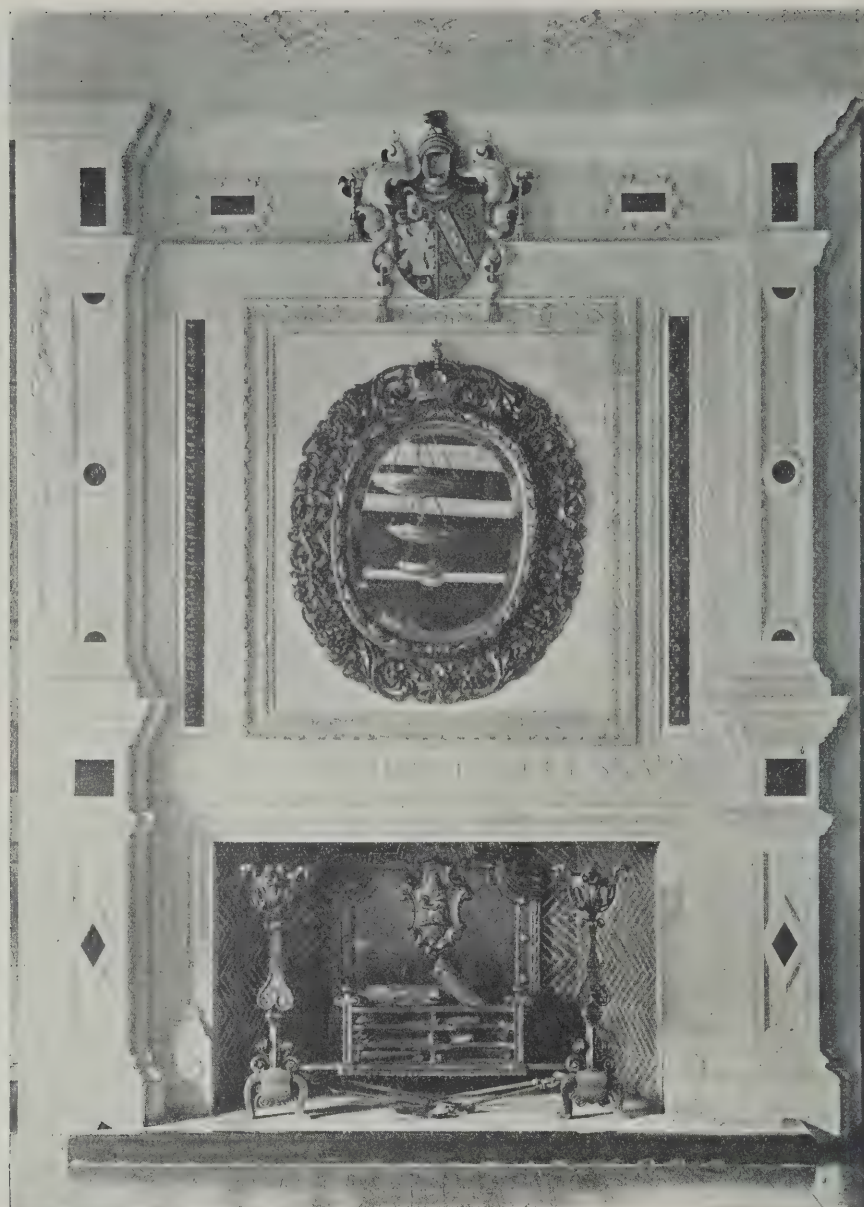
I am sorry that I still am unable, in the last quoted part of the lecturer's speech, to see any direct reference to two British inventors as referring directly to lighting. The British Drama League is showing designs for a theatre, and Mr. Gordon Craig is showing a model. I took the reference to theatre design in a general sense and not referring directly to lighting, but the point is of minor importance. We are quite agreed on the subject and we both recognise that British inventors could supply all our needs were they called upon to do so. The pity of it is that they are not called upon, or encouraged in any way. Miss Defries replies to my original criticism about the Charing Cross Removal Scheme with the statement that "space forbids my saying much here, but I must refer your critic to the London Society." You have, dear Sir, informed me that you regret that Miss Defries was under the impression that space in "The Architect" was in any way restricted, and that had Miss Defries sent you her full replies to my comments you would have published them. Personally, I am glad she did not, because I have to defend myself on so many other points, that I am glad she has spared me these.

I will pass on to the, in Miss Defries' opinion, joke of the criticism: "For your critic confounds a national theatre with a museum. Before this, words fail me, but I must protest against his misreading of what I said about museums. I love museums; but I said we have all we want."

I again quote from Miss Defries: "Then, on the other side of the river Mr. Herbert has made a space for what he at present calls a memorial museum. I hold that we want a market, and workshops, and living places, and no more museums." Again, later, Miss Defries said: "Now I see all this as part of the one scheme. The 'Old Vic.' would be the artists' theatre and would take apprentices and would feed the national theatre. The museums, in Mr. Herbert's model, would become the craft workshops, market place, exhibition galleries, studios, offices, and living place, with restaurant, music rooms, libraries, meeting rooms, and dance hall with restaurants. . . There would be houses not only all the craft workers and their apprentices in all the crafts needed by the nation as well as by the theatre, but also all the societies of all the arts in the Empire." In my criticism published on May 9 I altogether fail to trace having confounded a national theatre with a museum. The national theatre is to



DIANA AND ENDYMION. ALLAN HOWES, Sculptor.



MELCHET COURT, DINING-ROOM FIREPLACE. DEANE & BRADDELL, Architects.

be on the site of the present Charing Cross railway station, the experimental theatre is to be the "Old Vic" and the Palace of Arts is to be on Mr. Herbert's memorial museum site. I cannot trace any evidence of confusion. Where I might have been led astray is in placing from memory the Palace of Arts so near the "Old Vic." I know Mr. Herbert's model very well indeed. But I am not vitally interested in schemes which have very little possibility of being realised in my lifetime, or in the lifetime of the next generation. Many men design and construct models and schemes for the Charing Cross Improvement Scheme. When Mr. Herbert's model was first shown quite a number of other ideas were also on exhibition.

Miss Defries further said in her speech that "The Board of Trade and the Board of Education might also give such a plan a subsidy or some form of guarantee, so that the National Arts may be worthily housed, and room be made for laboratories, and the whole become as it should become—a national market place, a national workshop, and a national scheme for the right education of all types of designers, and creative workers, thus ennobling the whole life of the nation. It is a false idea to think of taxing the nation to set up our buildings. We can, as I have explained, pay for them ourselves."

In Miss Defries' letter, which you published in your issue of May 23, she writes: "There are half-a-million professional workers organised in Britain. There are two million intellectual workers (as they call them) organised in Europe. The half-million in Britain can, with the aid of the British Confederation of Art (on whose Council the former organisation is well represented), develop into one million people represented in the National Confederation, and by asking one million people to each contribute one pound per annum you get an annual income of one million pounds per year, and with that these people can have their building without taxing the State." Had Miss Defries said in the Olympia what she wrote in her letter to you

and you published in your issue of the 23rd, I should have made no reference to the financial side of the scheme, but she did not say so, but suggested that the Boards of Trade and Education might contribute, which is quite another matter. I am not in the least offended at being referred to as "Methuselah," specially as I still think all I originally wrote was, on the facts before me, quite justified and correct. But I wrote without any unfriendly spirit or intention; people like Miss Defries are a great asset to the nation. I have suffered myself to have ideals and visions, but before I desired to build a Palace of Arts I would examine carefully whether I possessed a system of education for which it was worth building a Palace.—Yours faithfully,

METHUSELAH.

Art Education

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—My advice to the writer of the letter on "Art Education" that appeared in your issue of May 23, signed "City Architect," is that on no account is he to send his son to an art school. These institutions are mostly staffed by unsuccessful, unimaginative, mediocre teachers—men who are forced by circumstances to give lessons, or what appear to be lessons. Art cannot be fostered and developed by routine. The true artist is not a commercial machine; his temperament is mostly very difficult to understand, and ordinary people are inclined to find him difficult and unreasonable and not pleasant to live an ordinary existence with. But because the ordinary individual does not understand such natures it does not stand to reason that true artists should be forced to study their art in a manner organised and arranged by the unsympathetic. It is quite impossible to teach design or to implant a sense of composition into the mind of anybody who does not by nature possess these gifts, and if he does possess them why should he be forced to have them moulded after the standard and ideas

of a class of individuals who possess for the most part no imagination? If the vast number of art masters were men and women of imagination, possessed of the power to express the inspirations which are the results of a fertile imagination, they would not be art masters, content to live the lives that the Board of Education demands that the qualified art master shall follow.

If "City Architect" desires to kill every bit of the talent which, if properly encouraged, might very possibly some day produce a great creative mind, let him send his boy to an art school, where in a few years' time his son will pass the necessary examinations which will qualify him to take a position under the Government as an art master. But his present-day soul will be dead. Art schools are splendid institutions for commercial minds or men with very limited talent and ambitions. We possess no really good art school for practical design purposes. To-day the art schools produce unfinished, hopeless products.—Yours, etc.,

EX-SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER.

Building Materials Manufacturers' and Suppliers' Committee.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR.—The above Committee, which was formed at a conference of Building Materials Manufacturers and Producers convened by the Minister of Health on February 19th last, view

with some concern the mis-statements in regard to increased costs of Building Materials which are continually appearing in the Press.

In their desire to correct the erroneous impressions so widely held, the Committee have prepared the enclosed general statement and would be grateful if you could arrange to publish the same in your next issue.—Yours faithfully,

H. HALLIDAY,

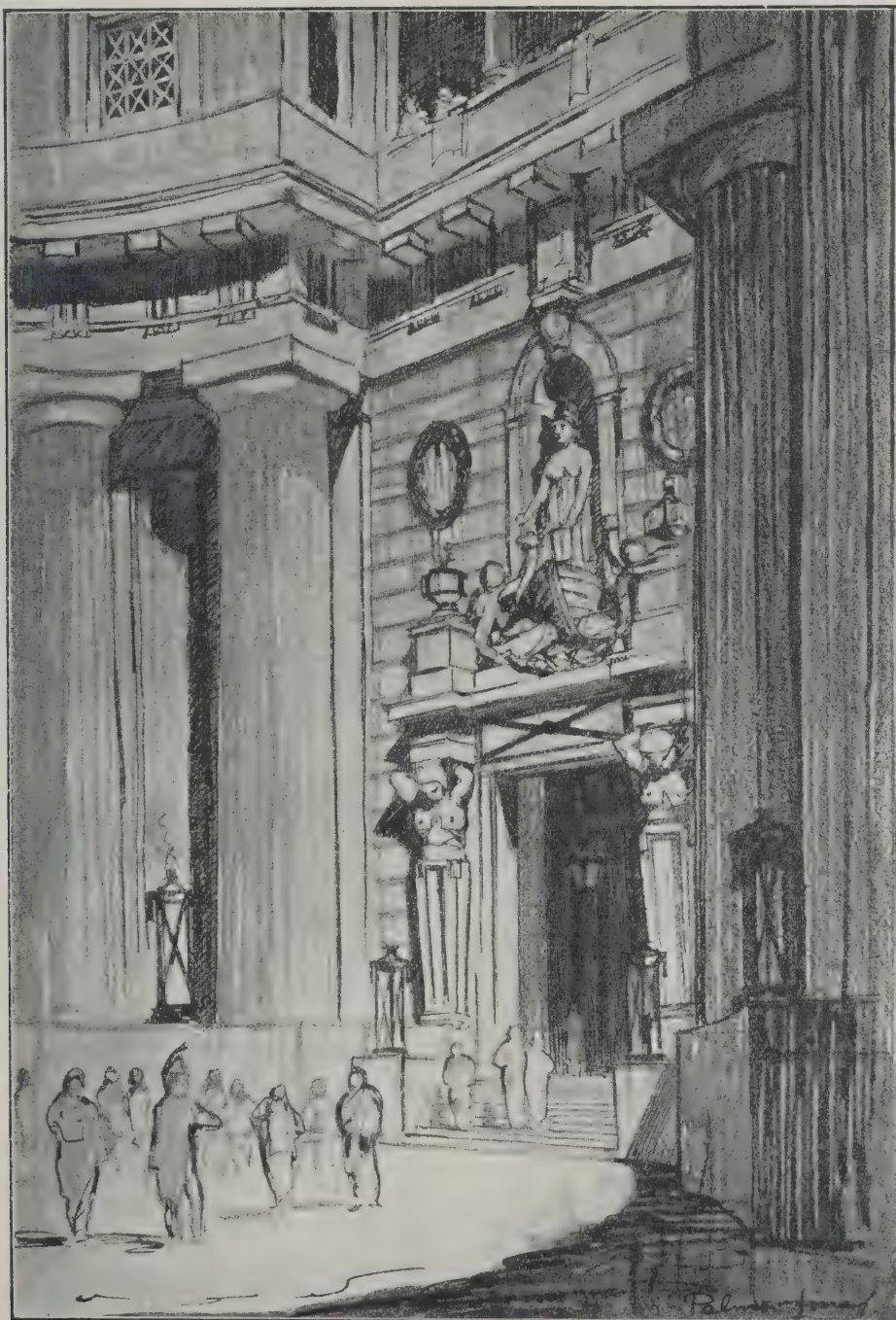
Secretary, pro tem.

BRITISH MATERIALS MANUFACTURERS' AND SUPPLIERS' COMMITTEE.

Increases of Price of Building Materials.

There appears to be a widespread impression that since the present Government came into power the Manufacturers and Suppliers of Building Materials have seized the opportunity of the new Housing proposals to put up prices and increase their profits. What are the facts?

A Government Committee was appointed by the Conservative Government in April, 1923, "to survey the prices of Building Materials," and this Committee reports monthly on price variations, basing its reports upon information received from representative centres as to the prices of all classes of housing materials. Comparing the figures contained in the reports for January, 1924, and April, 1924, it will be found that out of 342



IMAGINATIVE ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL. W. J. PALMER-JONES, Architect.

items scheduled in each, 240 show no advance in April. Of the 102 which show advances, 69 are items over the price of which the British manufacturer has no control, the price being entirely governed by import cost, viz.:—

Lead, including white lead, 42; timber and laths, 11; linseed oil and turpentine, 14; imported cement, 2.

The remaining 33 items which show advances are divided as follows:—

Bricks and tiles, 14; slates, 3; ballast and sand, 2; cement, 3; lime, 6; light castings, 4; glass, 1.

Two of the slate increases are on Scotch slates, and the other is one of 5 per cent. at Manchester. The ballast and sand increases are also at Manchester and represent 13s. 10½d. per house. The cement increases are all in Scotland, and refer to cement made from local blast furnace slag. The lime increases are 1s. per ton at Birmingham, 6d. per ton at Manchester, 3s. per ton on one class of lime at Newcastle, and 2s. per ton at Dundee. Approximately three tons of lime are used per house. As regards light castings, three fractional increases are reported in price of gutters and soil pipes at Birmingham, and 15s. per bath at Manchester, where baths were in January being bought at £4, a price below that reported from any other centre. As for glass, the solitary advance of ¾d. per square foot at Swansea is counterbalanced by reductions in five other areas. Regarding bricks and tiles, the Government Committee's reports show that in approximately one-half of the districts from which returns are made, the April prices for bricks were the same as the January ones. In the other districts, increases on common bricks vary from 2s. per 1,000 at Willesden to 8s. 6d. per 1,000 at Swansea. There were two increases in prices of roofing tiles, viz., at Bristol and Manchester. The organised brick manufacturers, in common with the manufacturers and suppliers of all other classes of building materials gave the Minister of Health on February 19th, a definite assurance that they would not make any advance in prices which were not justified by increased wages or other costs. *They have loyally carried out this undertaking.* No instance is known of organised manufacturers having advanced prices unless the advance could be fairly warranted by increased wage and fuel costs. It is true that there have been advances in brick prices in other districts during May, but these have been entirely due to the causes previously mentioned, and are counterbalanced by the substantial reductions in lead sheets and piping, made possible by the fall in imported raw material. Nevertheless, one of the most widely-circulated Sunday newspapers gave prominence in its issue of May 25th to the following announcement:—"Prices of building materials have jumped up between £50 and £70 per house *this month!*" Building materials are blamed for every enhancement of housing costs. We see newspaper headings: "Prices Soaring Sky High," and we are told on all hands that the Housing Scheme is doomed to failure owing to the profiteering of the manufacturers. Take Wandsworth as an instance—and it is typical of many other reported cases. The new tenders were £113 per house more than the cost of the previous ones and it is inferred that this is due to the increase in price of materials. The only advance specifically referred to was in bricks, which had increased 4s. 6d. per 1,000. *This represents about £4 per house*, but apparently the poor brickmaker is blamed for the whole of the £113 extra cost. A calculation has been made from the official bill of quantities for an A3 house to show the total extra cost of all materials in April as compared with January in every district from which the Government Committee derives its statistics, and it is found that the maximum increase (*i.e.*, at Swansea) does not exceed £9 12s. 6d. per house, which is equivalent to about 4 per cent. on the total value of the materials or less than 2½ per cent. on the total cost of the house. In many cases the increase is not equal to 1 per cent. on the cost of a £400 house.

Titan Sprinkler.

To the Editor THE ARCHITECT.

SIR,—We shall be glad if you will kindly insert the following letter in your next issue of THE ARCHITECT.

Leicester,
May 31st, 1924.

DEAR SIRs,—We wish to inform you that we had a fire break out in our clicking room about 7.30 p.m. on Saturday last, after the works had been closed at 12 o'clock mid-day. We find that the fire really occurred through some cuttings and offal that were put in two sacks at the side of a partition, and by some means or other caught light.

At the time of discovery the place was full of smoke, and by the time the fire brigade arrived one of the sprinklers had acted and had the fire under, and there was no need for the Fire Brigade to throw any water on.

This we consider very satisfactory indeed, and in our opinion it has been the best investment we ever had, for, without this sprinkler, we are of the opinion that the factory would have been burnt down.

We should strongly recommend your sprinkler installation to anyone having a factory of any size.

Yours faithfully,
for JOHN COOPER & SONS (BEEHIVE), LTD.
C. W. SAMPSON,
Secretary.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MILLS & CO., LTD.,
LEN MILLS,
Director.

Ratcliffe, Manchester,
June 4, 1924.

Competition News.

The United Grand Lodge of England invite architects to submit designs for rebuilding Freemasons' Hall, in Great Queen Street, Kingsway, London. The competition is to be conducted in two stages: first a sketch competition, and the second a final competition. Not fewer than six designs will be selected from those submitted in the first competition, the authors of which will be invited to submit detailed plans in the second or final competition. Each of the architects submitting a design in the final competition will receive an honorarium of £500. The assessors are Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., F.R.I.B.A., Mr. Walter Cave, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. A. Burnett Brown (Grand Superintendent of Works), F.S.Arc., F.S.I. On receipt of one guinea, which will be refunded on receipt of a bona-fide design or if the conditions are returned within four weeks of the date for submitting designs, competitors will receive conditions of the competition, which have the approval of the R.I.B.A., together with a block plan of site. Applications must be received on or before Saturday, August 23, 1924, addressed to the Grand Secretary, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2, and should be marked "M.M.M. Competition."

R.I.B.A.

The Honorary Degree of Master of Arts of the University of Oxford will be conferred upon the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, F.S.A., on June 19th, 1924.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JUNE 13, 1874.

COMPETITIONS WITHOUT EMPLOYMENT.

At the present moment there are two architectural competitions of importance before us, in which the principle appears to be in a more than ordinary degree straightforwardly avowed that the successful competitor is not to expect to be employed to carry out his design. Both of these cases occur conveniently, as it happens, in the City of London; and one is indeed in the hands of the Corporation itself, whilst the other is the enterprise of a highly popular philanthropic association which has at its head a highly popular ex-Lord Mayor. We allude of course in the first place to the competition for the City Fruit and Vegetable Market just decided, and in the second to that for the Goswell Road Industrial Dwellings just put before the profession.

In the former of these, the Corporation may be supposed to have entertained from the very first the idea, so openly carried out in the case of the Smithfield Meat Market, that the best designs should be appropriated at the premium price—which means confiscated rather than premiated—and then handed over to the City Architect to make what he pleased of them; in the other the published conditions appear to savour very decidedly of an intention identical in effect. Accordingly, when, as we now learn, out of the twenty-four designs submitted to the Corporation, three are awarded the sums of money originally promised, and three others have their merit recognised by the grant of small supplementary premiums, this result is arrived at by a formal resolution which takes care to stipulate (as was indeed done at the beginning of the transaction) that the whole of the premiated designs shall become the absolute property of the Corporation; and so also, when Sir Sydney Waterlow's Company advertises for designs for the Goswell Road buildings, there are the following conditions expressly set forth, in order that there may be no mistake:—"The copyright of the two selected designs is to become the property of the Company; and the directors do not undertake to carry out either of the two designs which may be selected, nor do they bind themselves to employ, in the execution of the works, either of the persons whose designs may be so selected."



ELEVATION to STREET "A"

ELEVATION to STREET "B"



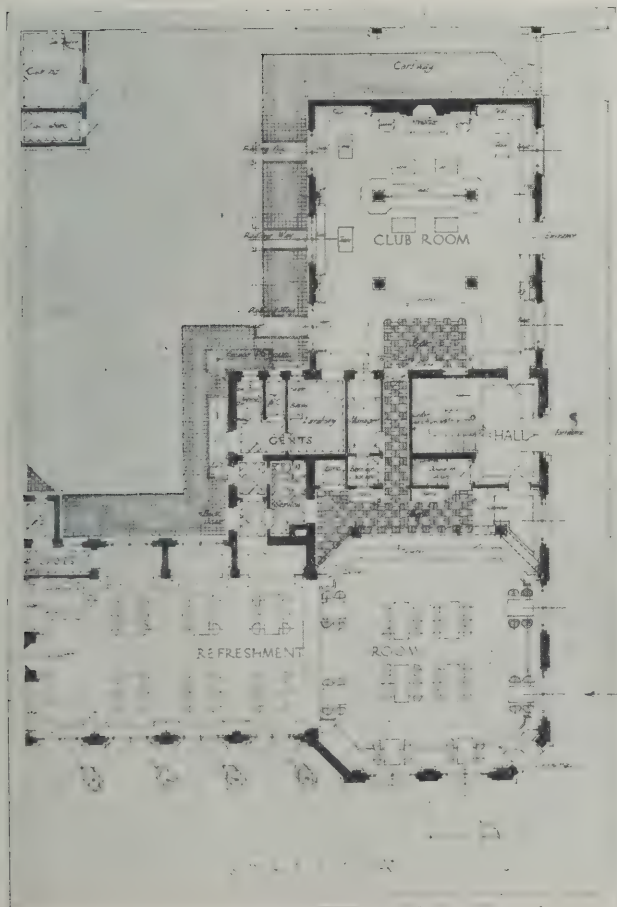
SECTION thro C-C

SECTION thro D-D

DESIGN FOR AN IDEAL PUBLIC HOUSE. P. D. HEPWORTH AND G. G. WORNUM, Architects.

The Palace of Arts, Wembley.

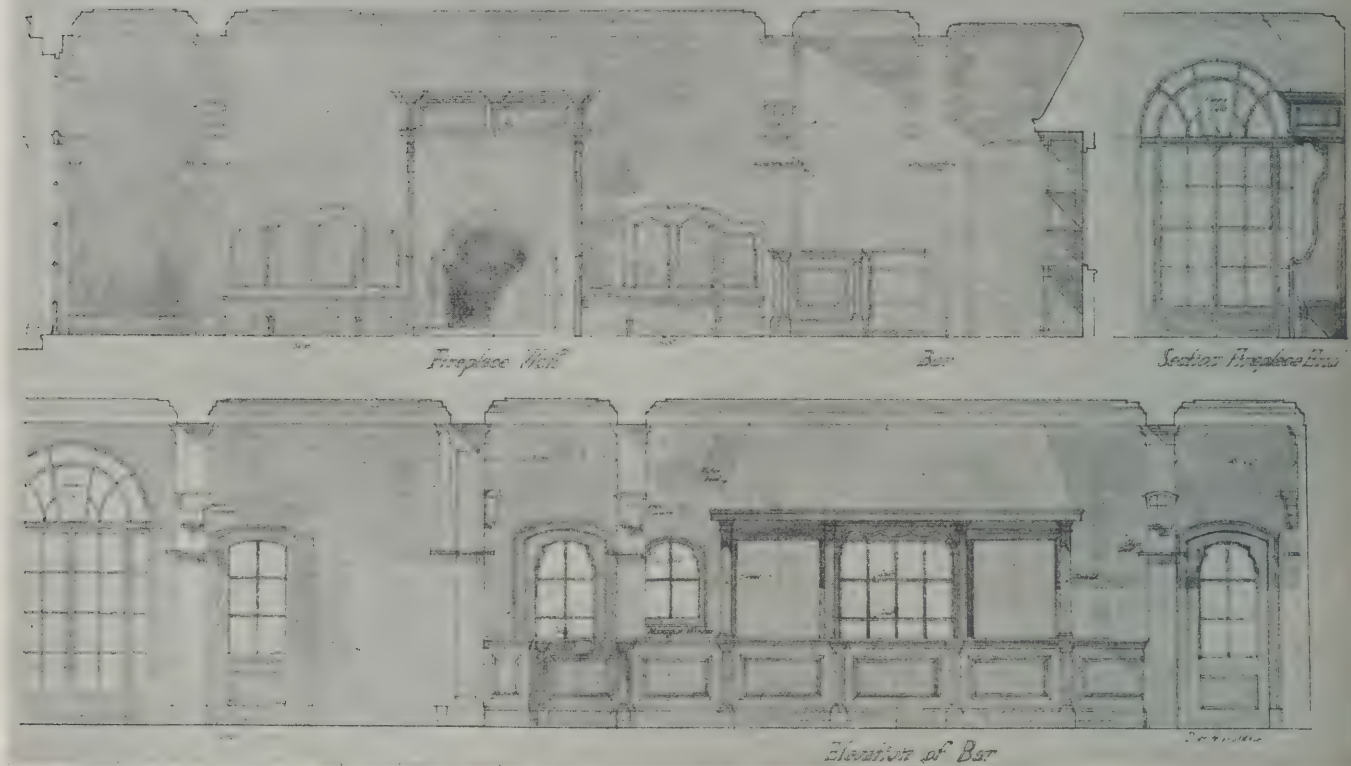
There can be no question about the very considerable public interest which is being shown in the Arts and Crafts exhibits in the Palace of Arts; the Sculpture Hall is very well attended and the pictures are inspected by a goodly crowd. The architectural rooms are the only galleries where very few visitors are to be found. I lingered here for one hour recently to listen to the remarks made and to observe the interest. One good lady appeared to be convinced that she had trespassed into a gallery where she should not have entered. With a look of terror written all over her face she bolted. Two young people remarked that it was nice and quiet there, and rather a pity there were not some comfortable seats. Another party asked me why no plans were shown, to which I replied that I was only a visitor like himself, and had pondered over the same question. He informed me that he would never employ an architect—they were too high and mighty; and unless you did exactly as they advised things became unpleasant. We all want houses to live in, was one of his remarks—why don't these organisers show us the houses we want? All these expensive residences are no use to us. We do not want to look at photographs of places we can never afford to build. I wonder some people have not smashed the exhibits, out of exasperation. But it's always the same with these professionals. It never enters their minds to think that the poor middle class have any right to pretty dwellings. For us the only accommodation is one of those frightful semi-detached villas in the suburbs, of which rows upon rows exist; or one of those new housing scheme dwellings that are no better than pre-war market gardeners' cottages. I sympathised with him, and as he spoke rather in a loud tone I was glad when he passed into another gallery. I should estimate the total visitors to the architectural exhibition in one hour at about thirty; and of those that visited the show this afternoon, judging from appearances, not a single one could under any circumstances ever be a prospective client. Matters were entirely different with regard to the exhibits under the direction of Major A. A. Longden, D.S.O. His office, close to the period rooms recently opened, was constantly besieged by visitors desiring to place orders or make inquiries. He is undoubtedly a wonderful organiser and a very good tempered chief, under whom it must be a pleasure to work, always keen and giving encouragement to others. The authorities are to be congratulated at having secured his interest and service.



DESIGN FOR AN IDEAL PUBLIC HOUSE.
GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

P. D. HEPWORTH AND G. G. WORNUM, Architects.

HALF INCH DETAIL of REFRESHMENT ROOM



HALF INCH DETAIL of CLUB ROOM





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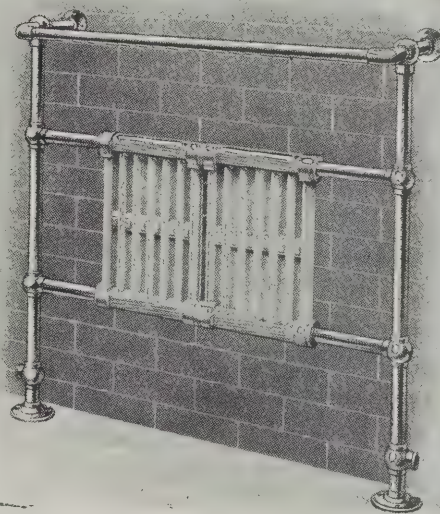
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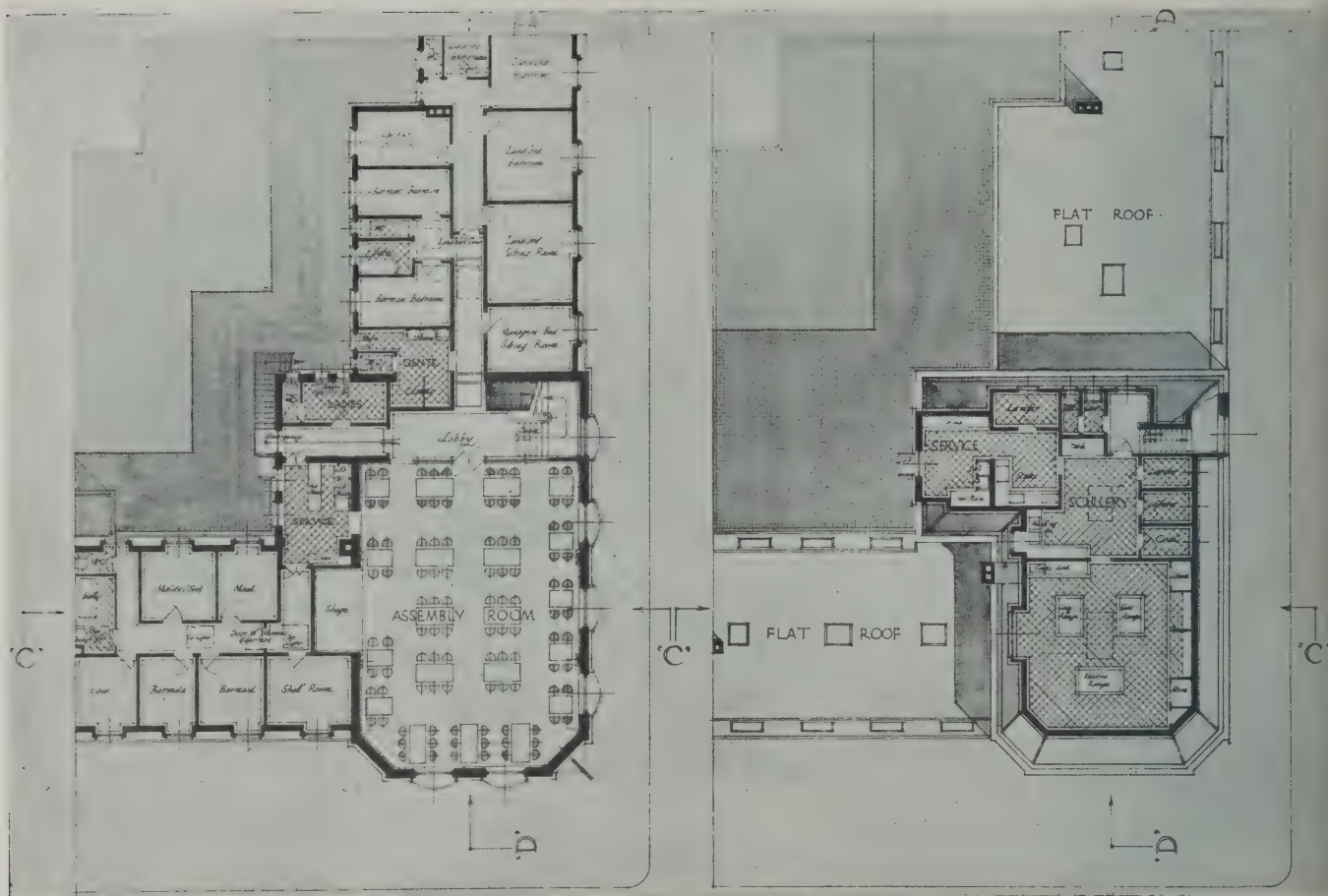
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DESIGN FOR AN IDEAL PUBLIC HOUSE. P. D. HEPWORTH & G. G. WORNUM, Architects.

"London Life" at Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

The first performance of the above play was given on June 3 last. It is a play in three acts by Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblock. The principal actors and actresses are Messrs. Ainley, Frank Cochrane, Graham Browne, Edmond Breon and Ian Hunter. Miss Lilian Braithwaite takes the principal lady's part, and is supported by Miss Olive Loane and Miss Helen Spencer and others.

Of the scenes, which number nine, we would place Scene III., Act II., first from an artistic point of view. The Reception Room was very finely conceived and arranged. Second in order of merit we would place Scene II., Act I., the Courtyard of "The White Horse" Inn, Ipswich. Scene III., Act I., and Scene III., Act III., are both very good examples of interior decorations; the furniture in both has been most carefully selected and arranged. Possibly many will think Scene II., Act III., the best, but a closer inspection will reveal that the trees are poor in shape, specially the contour of those behind the Temple, and the two side trees are very bad indeed.

Scene I., Act II., the Terrace of the House of Commons. This was very clever, only the general effect was rather marred by the bad perspective and rendering of the river, the little steamer on the same being altogether out of drawing.

We have not said anything about the play because this is hardly the journal in which to attempt to give notices of new plays except as far as the staging is of interest to the architect and decorator.

A few remarks are, perhaps, not altogether out of place. The play deals with the migration of a number of different personalities to London. The chief part, Simon Blackshaw, is taken by Henry Ainley, and represents a young solicitor living in a provincial town or, better, group of five towns. I am inclined to think the authors had the five Pottery towns in mind when they were writing their play. Simon Blackshaw is a very keen business man eager for a bigger field of activity, and Mr. Ainley gives a very truthful representation of the character. But on the whole I grew impatient with Simon. Oriana Oppletree, played by Miss Lilian Braithwaite, does not seem to fit into modern ideas. She makes extravagant declarations of love in Scene II., Act III., and when she hears the news of the death of her husband, contrary to all expectations, she suddenly renounces all her love and leaves Simon and the story. Her husband plays a very small part in the plot, but such as it is one is led to conclude that the two are not very happy or in sympathy with each other.

International Town Planning Conference, Amsterdam.

An International Town Planning Conference has been organised by the International Garden Cities and Town Planning Federation to take place at Amsterdam from July 2 to 9. Papers will be presented by experts from a number of countries. Among the papers from English speaking countries will be those by Professor Abercrombie, Raymond Unwin, Thomas Adams, Professor H. V. Hubbard (U.S.A.), Flavel Shurtleff (U.S.A.) and C. B. Purdon.

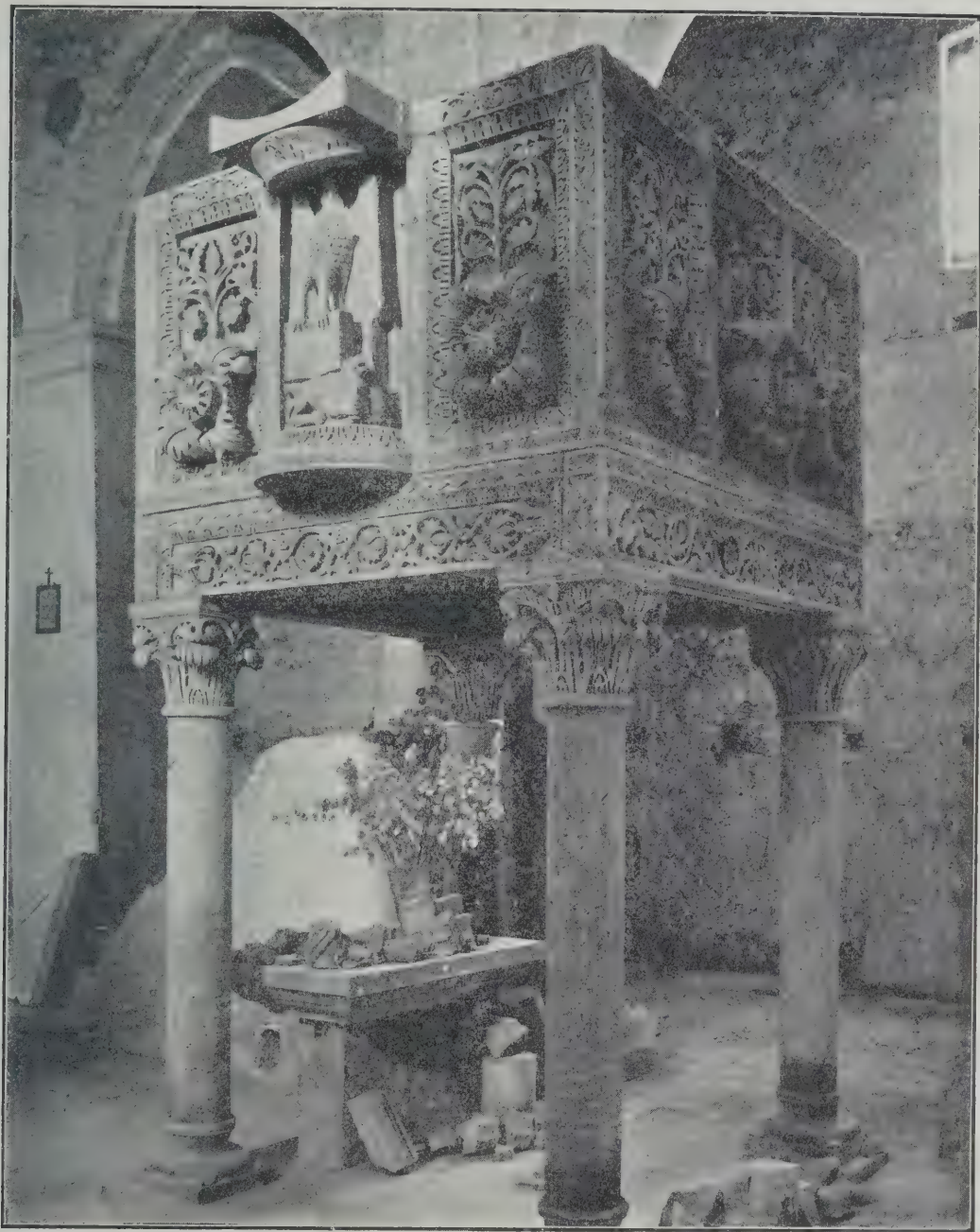
The chief items for discussion will be "Regional Planning in Relation to Large Cities" and "Parks, Park Systems and Recreation."

Delegates will attend from practically all European countries, and there will be contingents from Australia, America, Japan, etc. H.R.H. Prince Consort of the Netherlands will be the chief patron of the Conference. There will also be a specially selected exhibition dealing with the subjects of the Conference. Further particulars can be obtained on application to the Organising Secretary, International Garden Cities and Town Planning Federation, 3 Gray's Inn Place, London, W.C.1. The following is a list of Conference visits and receptions: July 2, 9 p.m., reception by Amsterdam Civic Authorities; July 3 and 4, Conference; July 5, morning, motor car tour of Amsterdam; afternoon, choice of following—(a) tour of harbour by steamer and visit to housing schemes, tea offered on steamer by the Royal Dutch Lloyd Company; (b) visit by steamer to Schiphol Aerodrome (with aeroplane flight over Amsterdam, if required); July 6, tour through the garden suburbs, visit to housing schemes at Hilversum and on to Utrecht (delegates will be entertained to luncheon at Hilversum and tea at Utrecht by the Civic Authorities), leave at midnight for The Hague. July 7, morning, tour through The Hague; afternoon, tour through The Hague and tea offered by the Civic Authorities; evening, reception by the Dutch Government; July 8, visit to Rotterdam, Conference at the Doele, visit to first Rotterdam garden village and reception by the Civic Authorities; July 9, visit to Delft and Rotterdam, tour of Rotterdam Harbour, visit to Aerodrome and Heyplaat garden village, tea offered by the Rotterdam Dry Dock Company.

For the erection of a villa at Cann, near Shaftesbury, for N. King Smith, Esq., the following tenders were received:—Messrs. Chivers & Co., Ltd., Devizes, £1,539; Messrs. Wort & Way, Salisbury, £1,501; Messrs. Williams Bros., Shaftesbury, £1,250 (accepted). Plumbing only: Messrs. Humphries & Son, Shaftesbury, £127 (accepted). Quantities by the Architect, J. P. Jenkins, Town Hall, Shaftesbury.

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TORRE DEI PASSERI. S. CLEMENTE A CASAURIA. AMBONE, SEC. XII.

Excessive Charges.

We cannot understand how any men of experience in any walk of life could convince themselves that Mr. Wheatley's Bill for preventing excessive charges in the building trades is a workable measure, or one likely to effectually remedy the evils complained of. The evil effect of the Increment Duty arose not so much from the fact that it diminished the profit of successful speculation, but because it embodied a principle of interference with what had been regarded as a purely personal concern of the speculator. We could understand Governmental action being taken to prevent anyone possessing a complete monopoly of some absolutely necessary essential to life, but such

a monopoly is not possessed as far as we know by any manufacturer of any building material or appliance. The supply of a great bulk of Portland cement is in the hands of a combine, but that combine does not possess a monopoly, as foreign cement can be imported. Nor would it be impossible, though it might be very difficult, to start independent cement works. With bricks, tiles, slates and timber there is even less opportunity for forming anything like an effective monopoly able to control all available supplies. The Light Castings Association were able to make a convincing defence of the prices charged, and evidence went to show that they had only taken reasonable



THE RAMESSEM. W. J. PALMER-JONES, Architect.

measures to protect an industry which occupied a very precarious footing. Steelwork has to face the competition of both Belgium and Germany in the open market.

We fail to understand how the Minister of Health can expect a manufacturer or builder's merchant to be willing to carry on business if it is within the power of any Government Department to examine his accounts, fix a fair price for his goods, and if he contravenes the Act penalise him by fines or imprisonment. The Minister is to have the power of taking over anyone's stock, buildings, and land, and of his plant and machinery for a term arbitrarily to be settled by the Department. No man carrying on his business under the shadow of such despotic powers could consider that business to be his own.

It would be less objectionable if it was within the Department's power to compulsorily acquire a business or undertaking in its entirety providing that adequate compensation were given, for a man could put the capital freed into some other form of undertaking, while the Department might exercise some caution if it had to make good its action by subsequent results. As it is the proposed measure seems to combine the maximum amount of possible interference with little

or no penalty for that interference, save a limited amount of compensation, the assessment of which would presumably be in the hands of officials employing a vast army of accountants and other professional help to be paid for by the taxpayer.

Knowing as we now do what the result of official interference with rents and land speculation has been, should we not absolutely refuse to give similar powers over an infinitely more complex set of undertakings? And seeing that the result of the first interference with the liberty of the subject has been to freeze out the private speculator and cause a shortage of the commodities most wanted, should we not be afraid of accentuating that shortage still further by the attempt to control what is absolutely necessary for building operations?

Will any man in his senses—if this Bill becomes an Act—be readily induced to put down new plant or take any other step to increase output?

Will he not in all probability be inclined to curtail his business to the smallest limits, or if he is fortunate enough, to sell out altogether?

He may well argue that if he produced a luxury, or something for which there was no absolute need, he could do so without fearing interference. He might



DECORATIVE PANELS IN THE WAR MEMORIAL REREDOS, EMSWORTH CHURCH. By MAURICE GREIFFENHAGEN, R.A. HEPWORTH & WORNUM, Architects.

instead of putting his time and energy into brick-making, make cheap sweets or picture postcards, toys, mechanical contrivances, or any of the bric-à-brac for which there is a profitable market.

We are inclined to be sceptical about the existence of sinister rings working for excessive profits, though we have no doubt that here or there men have very humanly taken advantage of their opportunities.

If such a Government as we have to-day really believes that the price of building is kept up because of excessive profits in the price of manufactured goods, the remedy lies either in "national" or municipal trading, or else it might meet a difficulty by supplying men with the necessary capital at a low rate of interest on the understanding that they sell at fixed and regulated rates. To take either of these two courses would at least show they had the courage of their convictions. The course proposed must be denounced as an unjustifiable interference with the liberty of the subject which, unless we are enamoured of Russian methods—and results—should be roundly denounced.

We know that the price of many of the commodities required in building seem high, even when we make allowances for the increased cost of labour and of coal

and freight. If it is so, it is far more likely to be the outcome of defective methods of management, lack of the best plant, and organisation.

These are defects which should be remedied, but we can scarcely expect men living under the constant fear of Government control and interference to improve their methods. Energy and foresight are what are mostly needed, and neither are likely to be displayed in State-controlled industries. To do their best men need both the pressure of competition and security from outside interference, neither of which are promised by the proposed legislation.

And it is curious to think that this state of things is the outcome of the proposals of a minority which would not have a month's tenure of office if those who know that their policy is entirely mistaken would combine, and in so doing carry out the wishes of the great majority of the nation.

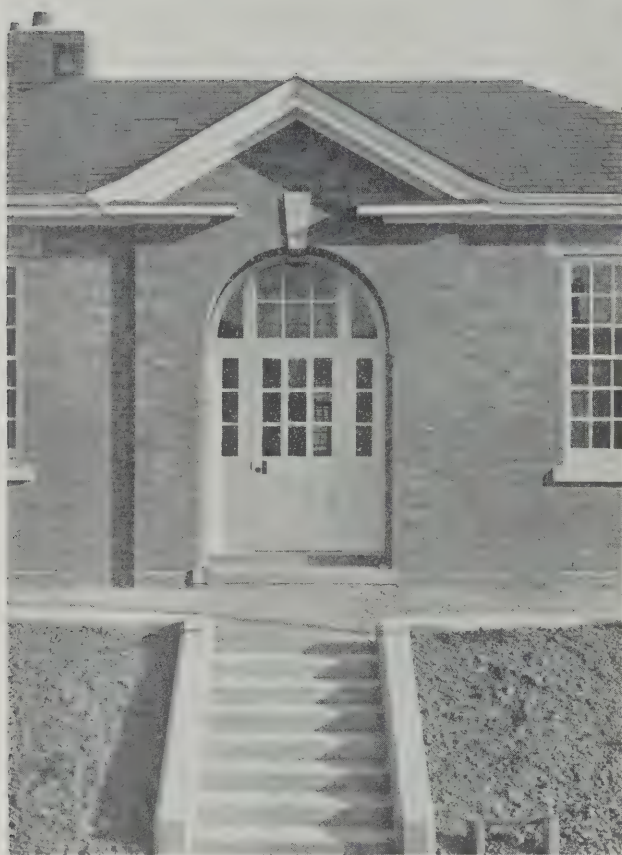
What we have dealt here with are the most clearly and obviously objectionable features of the new housing policy, but the whole policy is both wrong in principle and dangerous in effect. It should be defeated by a combination of parties, for it is clearly dangerous to allow so mischievous a measure to be passed into law on the plea that it is unlikely to be acted up to because of its inherent defects.



DECORATIVE PANEL. By MAURICE GREIFFENHAGEN, R.A. HEPWORTH & WORNUM, Architects.

Our Illustrations.

L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM. PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS, PLANS, Etc.
WM. CHARLES CLIFFORD SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Architect.



DETAIL OF ONE OF THE ENTRANCES.

London County Council West Park Mental Hospital, Horton Estate, Epsom.

The Minister of Health is to perform the ceremony of opening this hospital on Friday, June 20th, at 3 p.m.

The plans of the hospital (the eleventh mental hospital for the County of London) were prepared in the years 1909-11 and approved by the Home Secretary in 1912. Building operations were commenced in 1913, Messrs. Leslie & Co., of Kensington, being the contractors. In 1915, owing to the financial condition arising out of the war, H.M. Treasury were not prepared to approve of the continuance of expenditure and the works had to be closed down. In May, 1921, building operations were again resumed under a new agreement with the original contractors, but as the Ministry of Health did not approve of the whole hospital then being completed four blocks for patients and the chapel were omitted and these have yet to be completed. The hospital ultimately will accommodate a total of 2,096 patients (1,128 males, 968 females).

It is designed on the villa principle, every building for patients being detached. It has four sections:—

1. The admission hospital and villas for convalescent patients.
2. The main hospital, the buildings of which are connected by open-sided covered ways.
3. The special hospitals for the treatment of tuberculosis, dysentery and other infectious diseases.
4. The "open" villas for patients suitable for parole and who are engaged in domestic duties and on the farm and gardens.

The administrative buildings form part of the main hospital and divide the female division from the male division, and included in them are the offices and quarters for the medical staff, the clerk's department, the main stores, boiler house, bakery, main kitchen, laundry, visiting room, recreation hall and the workshops, both for handicrafts and the repairs departments. There is also accommodation for a resident staff, nursing and domestic, of 206 females and 79 males. The main blocks are directly connected by subways with the boiler house, and in these the steam, water and gas mains, the cables for electric lighting and power and the heating, lighting and other controls to the

wards are arranged that repairs and adjustments may be effected with the least interference to the buildings, paths and highways. The chapel, yet to be erected, will be on a site south of the hospital and convenient to both divisions. It will have seating accommodation for 854 persons. The estimate for the buildings, engineering work and equipment of the complete hospital approved by the Council in 1912 was £517,970. The estimated cost now, owing to the losses of the 4½ years' suspension during the war, limitations, delays, increases in wages and cost of materials that have since occurred, amounts to £1,030,670. The total area of the West Park Estate is 230 acres, and of this the buildings, grounds, recreation field and kitchen garden occupy 83½ acres. The wards and buildings with their gardens cover 44 acres. The floor areas of the buildings amount to 9 acres.

There are 28 separate buildings for the accommodation of patients, each complete with dining room, sitting room, dormitories, sanitary annexes, bathrooms, etc., and in addition there are two general bath houses, equipped with spray baths, while in the reception hospitals, besides the ordinary bath rooms, there are treatment rooms equipped with continuous baths of a type that has in the last few years been found of much value in the treatment of mental cases! The recreation hall has seating accommodation for 1,200 persons. It has a stage and will also have a cinematograph equipment.

Visiting Room: A central hall has been arranged in which the patients can meet the friends who visit them. The subways connecting the administrative buildings and wards with the boiler house are 1½ miles in length and contain over 5 miles of steam, hot water and return mains alone. Heating: The majority of the buildings are heated by radiators charged with low-pressure steam, the steam being generated in the central boiler house. Water: An artesian boring sunk in the hospital area provides for the daily needs of the institution, and for secondary supplies and fire protection the mains are also connected with the Epsom Council's system. Fire hydrants are arranged both inside and outside the buildings, and a 25,000-gallon tank in the tower will be always charged for use in case of need. In a reinforced concrete tank, having a capacity of 250,000 gallons, the rain from the roofs of the buildings is stored, and this soft water is to be used both for the steam boilers and laundry. Electric current for lighting and power is supplied from the Council's generating station in Horton Lane, which serves all the hospitals on the estate. Supplies for cooking and heating are obtained from the public mains. Main kitchen: The appliances in this department are designed to provide for 2,600 persons daily. Bakery: This has a power capacity equal to the daily production of 2,700 lb. of bread, etc. Laundries: The designed output of the plant in the three sections is 50,000 articles a week. Fire alarms: There is an electrical service of fire alarms by which a call to the hospital brigade rendezvous can be given from any ward or building. Telephones: The internal telephone system has a 100-line exchange board. The hospital is connected directly with the Southern Railway system at Ewell West Station by a siding 3¼ miles long, which runs through the Horton Estate. It has been of great value during the building operations. By this siding coal is delivered directly to the boiler house in the railway wagons as loaded at the collieries. Drainage: A sewer, 1¼ miles long, conveys the sewage to the District Council's farm, where it is to be treated in a special plant now being put down at the joint cost of the Council and the District Council. This plant is of the activated treatment type, and it is anticipated that the results from it will be of greater advantage to the district than those obtained from the method of sewage disposal now in use.

The architect and engineer of the hospital is Mr. Wm. Charles Clifford Smith, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Hon. Mem. Medico-Psych. Association, Mental Hospitals Engineer to the London County Council. The plans were prepared, engineering equipment arranged, and buildings and plant erected under his supervision. Mr. Clifford Smith was concerned in the modernisation of Hanwell and Colney Hatch Mental Hospitals, the plans for which were prepared under his supervision, the additions to Banstead Mental Hospital, the design and erection of the Manor Mental Hospital, the reconstruction of the annexe at Colney Hatch Mental Hospital, the design and erection of the Epileptic Colony at Ewell and the Maudsley Hospital at Denmark Hill, and he has recently prepared plans for the modernisation of the original buildings at Banstead Mental Hospital.

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LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL. EP
BLOCK PLAN





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ELEVENTH LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, EPSOM.
ACUTE HOSPITAL.

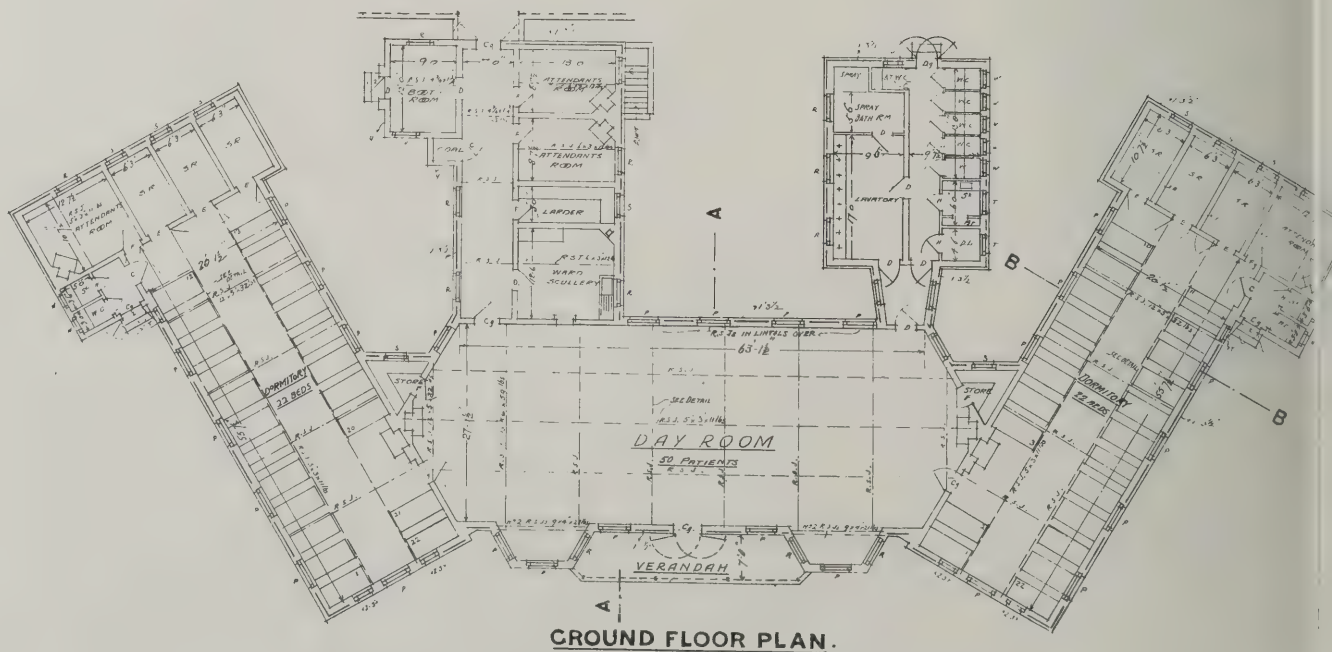
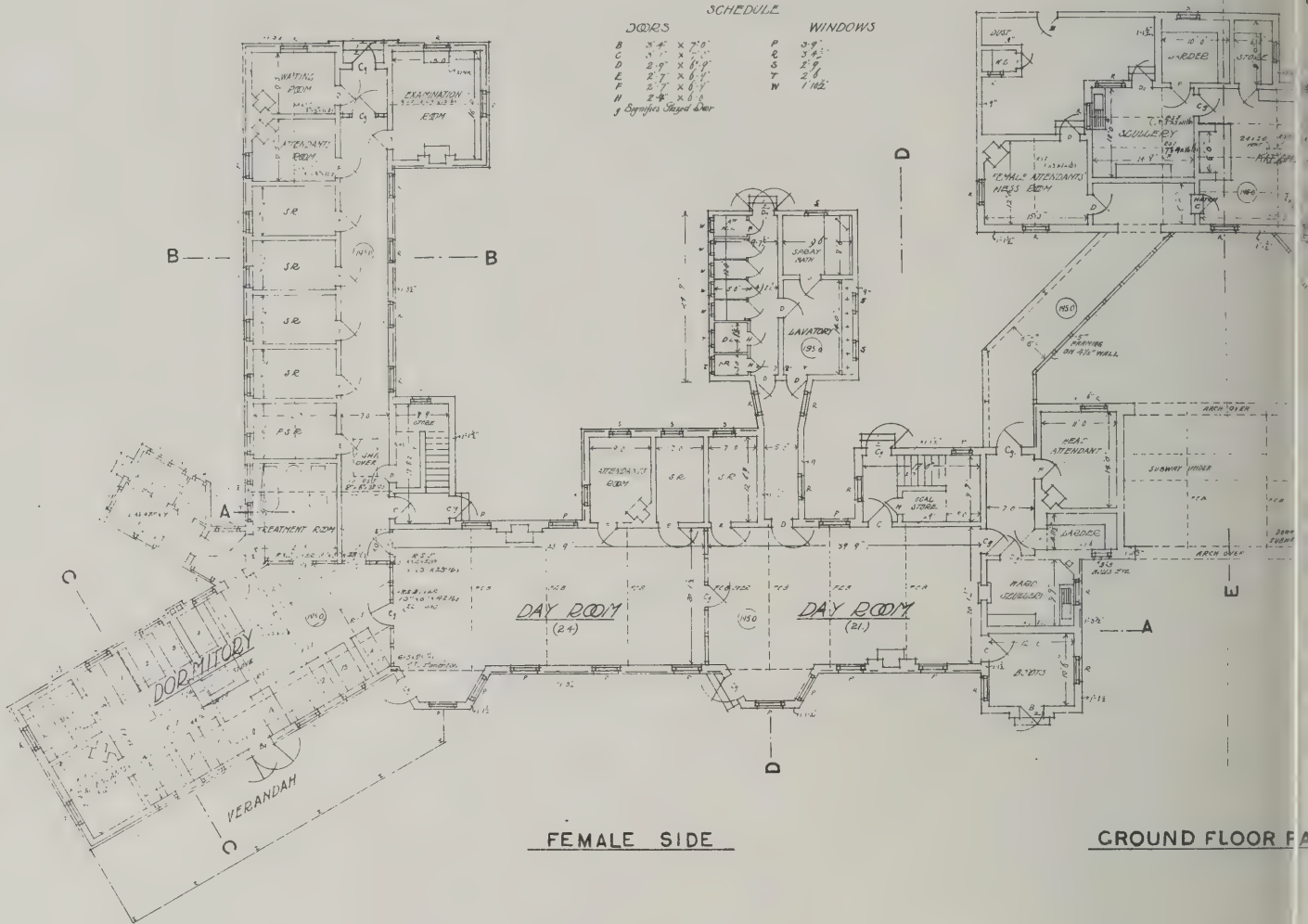
FEMALE WARD. L.
MALE WARD. O.

NOTE.

THE F.A.s TO DAYROOMS AND DORMITORIES
WILL BE ARRANGED TO SUIT THE POSITIONS
OF THE RADIATORS

DOORS		WINDOWS	
B	3' 4" X 7' 0"	P	3' 6" X 6' 6"
C	2' 7" X 6' 6"	Q	2' 7" X 6' 6"
D	2' 7" X 6' 6"	R	2' 7" X 6' 6"
E	2' 7" X 6' 6"	S	2' 7" X 6' 6"
F	2' 7" X 6' 6"	T	2' 7" X 6' 6"
G	2' 7" X 6' 6"	U	1' 10" X 6' 6"
H	2' 7" X 6' 6"		

g Signifies Slipped Door



PHTHISIS & DYSENTERY HOSPITALS

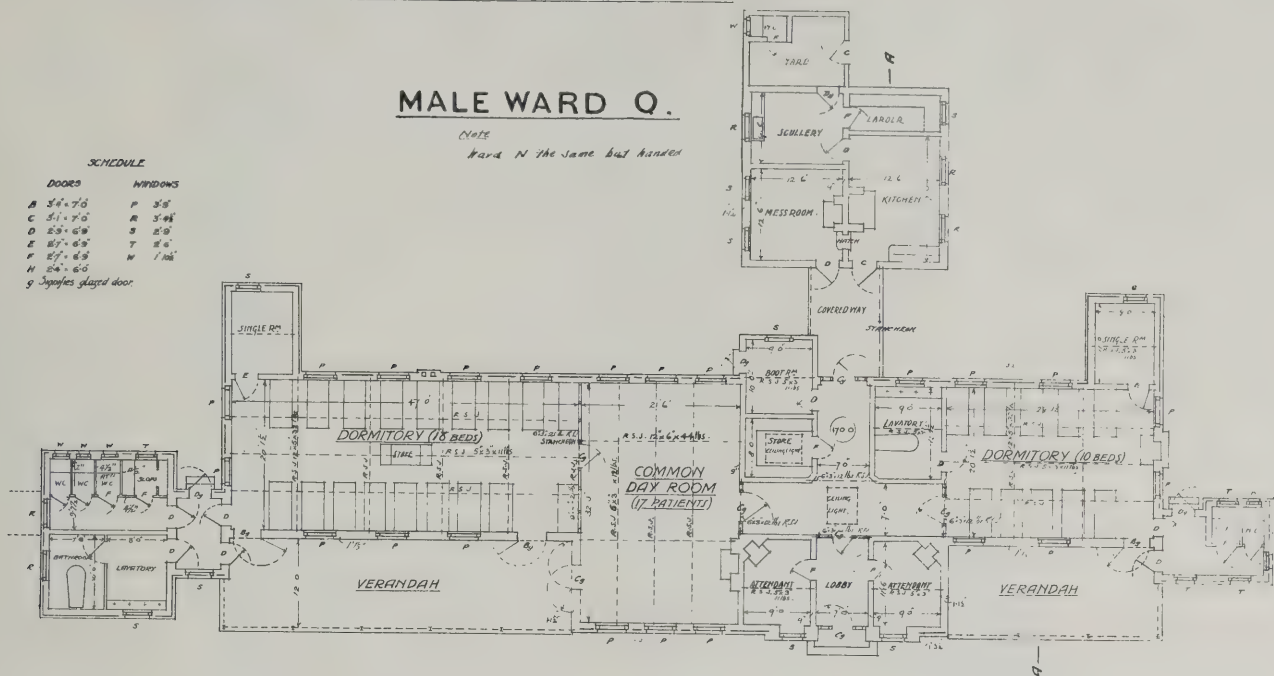
MALE WARD Q.

Note
Ward N the same but smaller

SCHEDULE

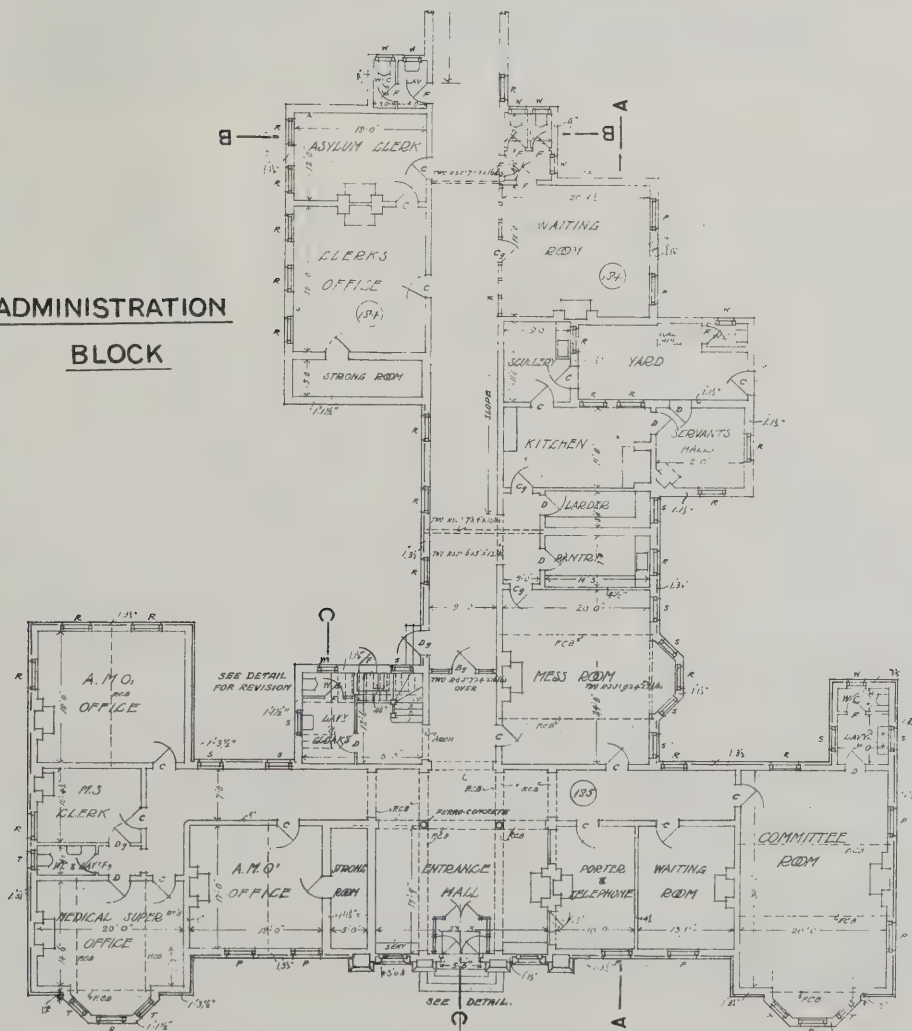
DOORS	WINDOWS
A 3'6" x 7'0"	P 3'6"
C 3'6" x 7'0"	R 3'6"
D 2'6" x 6'6"	S 2'6"
E 2'6" x 6'6"	T 2'6"
F 2'6" x 6'6"	U 2'6"
H 2'6" x 6'6"	V 2'6"

g signifies glazed door



— GROUND FLOOR PLAN. —

ADMINISTRATION BLOCK



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

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1900



WATER TOWER.



MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE.

L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM.

WM. CHARLES CLIFFORD SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.



ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE AND MAIN ENTRANCE.



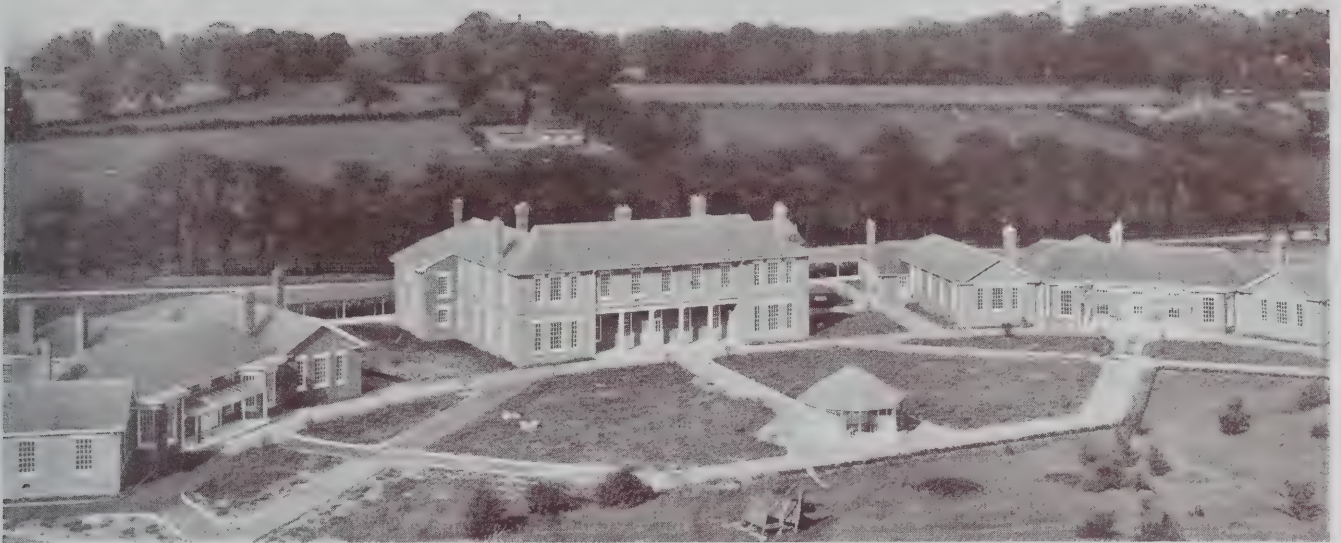
RECEPTION HOSPITALS.



ONE OF THE MALE WARDS.

L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM.

WM. CHARLES CLIFFORD SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.



GROUP OF MALE WARDS FROM WATER TOWER WITH HOSPITAL ESTATE IN THE DISTANCE.



TYPICAL WARD BLOCKS AND GARDEN COURT.



MALE CONVALESCENT HOME.

L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM.

WM. CHARLES CLIFFORD SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.



VISITING ROOM.



RECREATION HALL.

L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL. EPSOM.

WM. CHARLES CLIFFORD SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.

After careful investigations concerning the merits of various systems of reinforced concrete, Mr. Clifford Smith, architect for these buildings, specified the Coignet system of reinforced concrete, which presented great advantages of simplicity of construction and economy. It would be too long to describe in detail the numerous works which were carried out in this material, but briefly we may state that all the floors of the various buildings were executed in reinforced concrete, also many of the foundations for the buildings, and particularly for the boiler-house, where the weights coming upon the ground were considerable. A large number of underground passages were also constructed in this material, also retaining walls and similar works, and finally, but not least, a large underground covered reservoir containing about half a million gallons of water.

The principal advantages which characterise the Coignet system of reinforced concrete consist in the use of plain round bars of mild steel, which are easily procurable in the open market. The unit reinforcement for the beams and pillars are designed so that they can be prepared before hand in accordance with diagrams. All the principal bars forming each unit are tied together by means of annealed wire, so that the various individual bars forming the reinforcement are sure to be in their proper place and cannot be moved out of position during the concreting operation. Generally speaking, the arrangement of the bars in the beams was either composed of one or several groups of bars at the top and bottom of the beam united by stirrups of small diameter, or else the bars in the beams were arranged in such a manner that the ends of the bars forming each group were bent upwards at an angle of 45 degrees and hooked to a top bar. The latter method has for its object to save as much steel as possible on account of the fact that the number of bars in tension can thus gradually be decreased towards the supports where the bending moments are reduced, and where consequently the number of bars in tension can also be reduced. The bent up portion of the bars is then utilised to resist the shear by means of a strong mechanical anchorage. The bars having hooks at each end, it is impossible for them to slip through the concrete.

The arrangement of the bars forming the pillars presents no special feature, and is composed as usual of the required number of vertical bars bound together by means of a spiral hooping. Concerning the reinforcement of floor slabs and walls, a mesh work of bars is used, calculated and arranged sufficiently strong to take up all the tensional resistance in these members.

It may be here mentioned that the Coignet system of reinforced concrete flooring was the first to be tested in this country on a large scale by the British Fire Prevention Committee, where it received the highest awards for fire resistance.

The whole of the working drawings for the reinforced concrete work were prepared by Messrs. Edmond Coignet, Ltd., of London, and the work was carried out by Messrs. Leslie & Co., of Kensington, who were also the general contractors for the whole of the work.

The plant installed for the warming, ventilating and for hot water service has been carefully designed to meet the special requirements of this kind of institution.

The institution has accommodation for 1,098 male patients, 968 female patients, 118 nurses and 109 male attendants.

The physical health of the patients in mental hospitals is generally normal, and the provision for warming the rooms, corridors, etc., is to be considered in a different light from that which would be necessary for any other kind of hospital. Therefore, in designing the heating and ventilating apparatus for a mental hospital, a system is adopted which will warm the buildings quickly each morning in the cold season, is easily controlled, and economically worked.

Mr. Wm. Chas. Clifford Smith, F.R.I.B.A., the Asylums Engineer (London County Council), designed the whole system of the engineering work, and in doing so would, no doubt, be guided by the long experience which he has had in this kind of work.

Other similar institutions are under his charge, several of which are equipped with steam heating on the lines carried out in this installation.

The whole of the heating and hot water service and ventilating apparatus has been installed by the Brightside Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., of London and Sheffield.

The central plant comprises four 30 feet by 8 feet dia. boilers, suitable for 120 lb. steam pressure (made in Sheffield), a Green's economiser, 320 tubes, 5 calorifiers and rotary circulator, boiler feed pumps, sump pumps, etc., condense receiver and pump, and all of these are housed in one building.

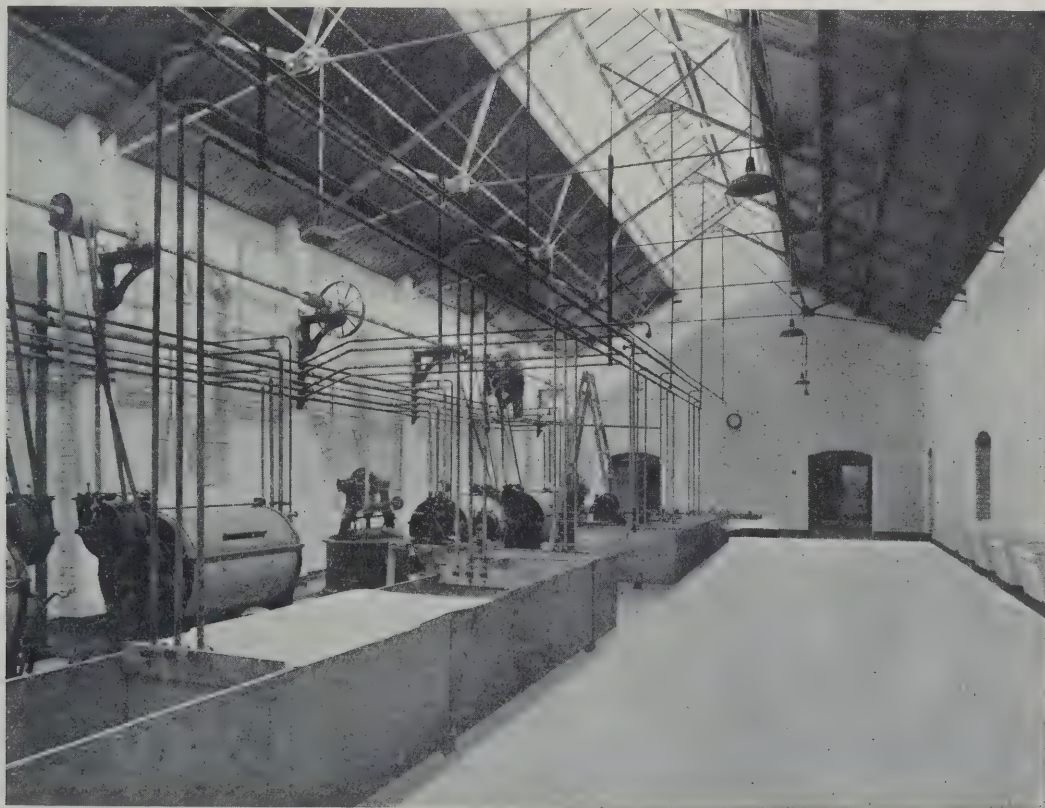
From this building the steam and hot water service mains radiate in subways to the various buildings.

The steam service starts from the mains at the boilers at 80 lb. pressure, and at each branch service for heating the various blocks of buildings the pressure is reduced to 10 lb. per sq. inch.

The heating apparatus is arranged on a dual system, viz., one system for use in the day time and the other for use in the night.

Regulating and stop valves are fixed at these branch pipes so that the steam service to any building can be regulated or cut off at will.

Each system is separately valved and trapped at the mains so as to be easy of control.



THE LAUNDRY: L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM.
WM. CHARLES CLIFFORD SMITH, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Architect.

Each reducing valve is provided with stop cocks, pressure gauge and safety valve.

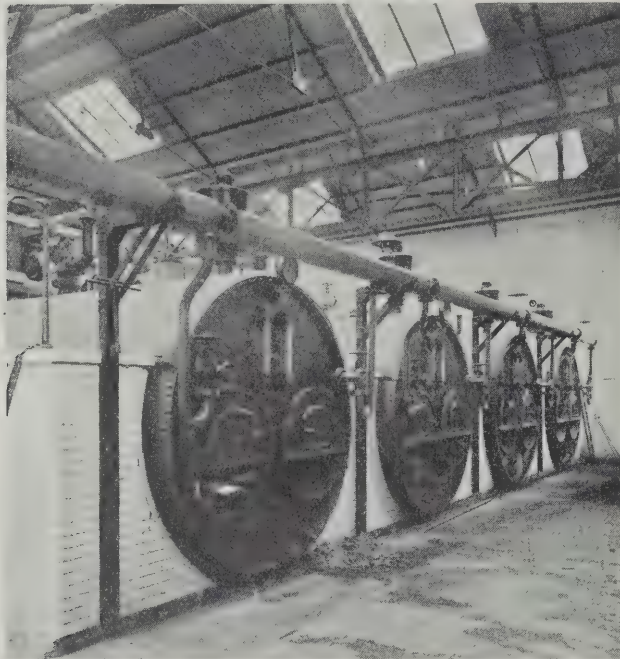
The current for lighting and power is obtained from a separate generating station which supplies several other of the Council's asylums in the vicinity.

The main subways are 9 feet wide by 6 feet 6 inches high, and the branches vary according to the number of pipes, etc., which they accommodate.

In addition to the pipes for steam and hot water, there are pipes for cold supply and for fire main service, also the electric cables are carried on brackets in some of the subways.

The total length of subways is approximately two miles.

The warming of the day rooms, dormitories, corridors, etc., is by means of low-temperature steam radiators, and each tier of radiators is valved so that it is easy of control. The steam supply is taken into the roof space, and the service pipe connected to the radiators, terminating at a condense trap in the basement.



BOILERS.

The whole of these condense traps are connected to a main pipe which conveys the water of condensation back to the tank near the boiler-house, and the condense water is used again for boiler feed water, thus reducing to the minimum the amount of fresh water for boiler feeding and of the heat losses from condense water pipes.

In those wards or rooms occupied or frequented by patients the radiators are encased in strong galvanised iron wire guards and all the pipes up to a height of 7 feet are guarded by strong, perforated steel casings.

Fresh air louvred gratings are fixed behind the radiators with adjustable levers so that a thoroughly good system of ventilation is ensured.

A special arrangement of warming and ventilation is provided for the entertainment hall or theatre, a fan and heating battery being fixed in the basement and a system of ducting and air inlets is incorporated in the walls and floors so that a continuous supply of fresh warm or cold air is forced into the building, during the time the theatre is being occupied for a concert, etc.

For the padded rooms for special patients, the warming is done by wrought iron pipes being fixed at the ceiling level, and these are encased in perforated steel guards.

The main steam pipes and also the hot water service mains are carried on cast iron brackets built into the side walls of the subways. Provision is made for the expansion of these steam and hot water mains by a number of sleeve expansion joints.

It is estimated that 35,000 gallons of hot water will be required per 12-hour day, and provision is made for this supply by a system of calorifiers, circulators, etc., as follows:—

Three calorifiers, each with a capacity for supplying 1,500 gallons of water per hour at 180° F. (4,500 gallons per hour total), and two with a capacity of 2,500 gallons each (5,000 gallons per hour for the two).

One of the latter has a special tube battery, so that the exhaust steam from the feed pumps can be utilised for heating the water.

The arrangement is that two calorifiers are in commission (heated by exhaust steam and by live steam make-up) for the general hot water service, and the other three calorifiers are auxiliary to these and are brought into service as occasion demands.

The heated water in the calorifiers is circulated by means of a motor-driven rotary impeller and also by steam-driven reciprocating pumps. The flow main conveys the hot water to a steel tank on the tower (70 feet up), from which it flows to all parts of the institution, circulating pumps having the suction side attached to the return mains of the hot water service ensuring a lively and reliable circulation.

The hot tank referred to holds 10,000 gallons and special attention has been given to the installation of this tank to avoid heat losses, so that there is always an abundant amount of hot water available, and it is not necessary to run the circulators during the night-time.

For the general bath houses (where patients wash under shower sprays) special thermostatic appliances are employed whereby hot water at a predetermined temperature is supplied. The temperature control works automatically, keeping the water within one degree of the desired temperature.

A similar appliance is adopted for the continuous immersion baths, which are required for special cases where it is the necessary treatment for a patient to be immersed in water at a fixed temperature for several hours.

As in the case of the heating, the hot water service mains are provided with expansion joints and are valved in such a way that any building can be regulated or isolated as desired, and draining valves are fixed so that any section can be shut off for repairs when necessary without interference with the remainder of the system.

Special floor collars are fixed round all pipes passing through floors and walls, in such a manner that water (used for washing floors) cannot run down. Pressure gauges and thermometers are fixed in the boiler calorifier room so that the engineer can keep a record of the temperatures, etc.

All the steam mains and hot water pipes where not needed for radiation and all tanks containing hot water are covered with non-conducting composition so that the heat losses are reduced to a minimum.

There are approximately 24 miles of heating and hot water pipes in this installation, about 200 expansion joints and 650 radiators.

The work was commenced in 1914, but had not proceeded far when the war conditions necessitated the stoppage of such works, and it was not until March, 1922, that the work was recommenced.

The Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., has a reputation for this class of engineering work, and has been entrusted with many similar contracts in various parts of the country.

Moorwoods, Ltd., London and Sheffield, have provided and fixed cooking apparatus for the above, and the following description will give a rough idea of the apparatus, which is capable of supplying meals for 1,100 male and 1,000 female inmates, together with 440 staff. Tea and coffee in large quantities is made in a special apparatus, which is capable of supplying 300 gallons at one time and consists of the following:—A large tank of 350 gallons capacity, in which water is brought to boiling point by means of a steam battery capable of boiling the contents in thirty minutes, arrangement being provided in the tank so that only boiling water may be drawn. Underneath are fixed three water-jacketed pans, each of 100 gallons capacity, each pan being provided with a copper tea and coffee infuser fitted over same. The infusers are provided with loose perforated baskets into which the tea and coffee is placed, and when the operation is finished these baskets may be taken out and cleaned ready for the next brewing. Boiling water is discharged for the boiling tank into each of these infusers, after which the tea, when mashed, is emptied into pans underneath, which, being water-jacketed, keep the contents hot without boiling. Large draw-off taps are used to draw off the contents of the pans as required.

For roasting and baking a special steam tube baking oven is installed, having two draw plates each 10 ft. by 6 ft. For boiling meats, puddings and making soup, etc., a range of eight large steam-jacketed boiling pans is provided, five of 100 gallons capacity and three of 80 gallons capacity. These pans are of the latest design and are provided with copper hinged lids fitted with balance weights for easy lifting and large draw-off taps fitted with strainers inside the pans. For boiling vegetables, two large steam-jacketed pans are provided, each of 150 gallons capacity. A strong galvanised iron wire basket is supplied to each of the above pans to contain green vegetables. The baskets are supplied with lifting bar and are lifted in and out of pans by means



VIEW OF THE KITCHEN AT THE L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM.
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of self-sustaining lifting blocks which are arranged to run along the flanges of rolled steel joists fixed overhead. By this means the baskets, when filled with vegetables, are easily lifted into the pans and after the boiling operation is finished are taken out, the surplus water being allowed to drain away.

For steaming puddings, potatoes and vegetables, a range of six steaming ovens is provided, each oven being 18 in. wide by 36 in. high by 24 in. deep back inside. Five strong galvanised loose trays are provided to each oven and arranged to run on slides fitted inside. The steamers are strongly constructed of

cast iron, having special hinged doors fitted with improved fastenings arranged so that, at one operation, the doors are secured at six points, thus giving equal pressure and making steam-tight joint.

Special sinks are provided, fitted with drainers for scullery and vegetable preparing rooms, the latter being constructed of rubbed slate. For potato peeling and vegetable paring a special machine is supplied capable of dealing with 20 lb. of potatoes a minute. Various wooden tables and drawers of special design are provided in the kitchen and sculleries.



VIEW OF THE KITCHEN AT THE L.C.C. WEST PARK MENTAL HOSPITAL, EPSOM.
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Notes and Comments.

Excessive Charges.

We should like to call the attention of His Majesty's Government to our leading article this week and to ask those who take so strong a stand against the profiteering of manufacturers what they propose to do to check the no less harmful result of the profiteering of labour which is the direct cause of many of the evils from which we are now suffering. Do they think it right that the Unions should exercise their present tyrannous power of restraining the individual worker from working extra time if he feels disposed to do so, or that he shall practically be compelled to limit his output to make work for others? Is it right that the Unions on the most frivolous pretexts should have the power of holding up industry till some new claim has been conceded? Should not an end be made to picketing and sympathetic strikes by which the claims of a small section of workers are often supported by those who have no grievance or complaint which calls for redress? Is it right that agreements entered into with the employers should be repudiated without notice on the most trivial grounds? Are we, in a word, to have no protection against what is practically lawlessness in a so-called civilised community? These are questions on which we should like to have the answer of the Government and which should be dealt with if they are really anxious to end profiteering.

The Imperial War Museum.

We see that Lord Ailesbury has been complaining of the fact that large portions of the War Museum collection at Sydenham are closed to the public at a time when, he says, many Colonial visitors want to see it. We do not know whether the agitation for spending an immense sum of money for purposes of a War Museum is only moribund or dead. We never believed that this scheme was more than a Frankenstein-like monster for a short time imbued with the semblance of vitality. The records of the Great War are material either for history or for military science. The weapons used have none of the picturesqueness of those of the past, while they need specially trained knowledge to understand them, and if another great war ever came about they would probably be almost as out of date then as the weapons used in the Napoleonic Wars are to us now. We do not think the War Museum has ever been a practicable scheme, and believe the want of the future will rather be a great history of that tragic epoch. Very few among us have either knowledge, imagination or industry enough to re-create pictures from past relics of events unless those relics, like the great buildings of the past, are intensely vivid or beautiful in themselves. Already a generation is growing up to whom the war is not even a memory, while we are chiefly concerned in an attempt to reintroduce some coherence into the chaos which the great upheaval has brought about—a chaos which sometimes seems as tragic and more depressing than the war itself, because we have not the help of the hope born in periods which made instant appeal to feeling and emotions.

The Widening of Princes Street.

The City Corporation and the London County Council having failed to come to an agreement as to the widening of Princes Street, which is only 36 feet 10 inches wide at its junction with Lothbury, the Committee have recommended the Court of Common Council to carry out the widening at the expense of the Corporation alone. There is, it is stated, no precedent for making an improvement which is obviously metropolitan in its character without any contribution from the County Council, but the Committee feel that a decision must be arrived at at once, otherwise it would be impossible to effect it for another generation. The situation is complicated by the fact that the Great Northern and City Railway have powers to make a terminus in Lothbury, which would further add to the congestion. As the County Council obtains about one-eighth of its whole revenue from the City, its refusal to contribute to the cost of this improvement seems unreasonable. The widening will necessarily affect the rebuilding

of the Bank of England, as it will necessitate the demolition of Sir John Soane's Princes Street elevation and may bring about a reconsideration of the whole problem.

Liverpool Cathedral.

The writer of a critical article on Liverpool Cathedral makes what seems to us somewhat cryptic remarks in the conclusion of his notice. He says:—

It is when you look again at the east window from outside that not so much a defect as an inevitable consequence in this great building becomes apparent. It is a four-light window of two pairs, and the sculptured central division is of a weight to make the minor divisions look a little thin. Then, quickly, it comes to you that the tracery, Decorated, but akin to the contemporary French Flamboyant, which fills the heads of the pairs, has a movement which is denied by the contours of the building as a whole. The bars and tracery of the windows in general do not, as in mediæval work, look like part of the muscular system of the building; and then you see what it means. Here are Gothic and Classic in the last ditch of their natural opposition, with the irreducible minimum of conflict due to the circumstances of their birth. As when you cut a tree into however noble a form, which is not the form of its growth, there will be a conflict between that form and the internal activity of the branches, so when you impose a Classic form upon a Gothic organism there will be, however slightly, a conflict. You have made symmetry where balance is the natural order. But this is not a fault of the architect; it is a consequence of the time of day, proclaiming to future ages that Liverpool Cathedral is indeed a great work of the twentieth century; a century in which skilled and loyal labour was available to carry out the design of an architect of genius, but not the labour which itself contributed to a form which, however preconceived by the designer, was in the result a record of actual growth as the form of a tree is the record of the growth of its branches. To anybody who values the relation of a building to its age this character in Liverpool Cathedral of a contribution of the builders in skill and loyalty and spiritual aspiration, which did not, however, and could not, as in the communal effort of the Middle Ages, flow like sap into the members of the building, influencing the design, will not seem a defect.

We confess to finding this somewhat difficult to follow. It is a matter of common knowledge that the designer of the Cathedral has followed Classic rather than Mediæval precedent by enlarging the scale of parts rather than in multiplying them as is usual in Gothic structures. But we should have thought that the employment of balance rather than symmetry was chiefly the outcome of the growth of buildings during long periods of time, and that a greater symmetry was a natural result of the carrying out of any building of whatever type under the same directions and in a comparatively brief space of time. But it frequently seems that æsthetic criticism must—to be thoroughly appreciated—be more than a little obscure!

"Arrears."

A humorous story is told by a writer in "Engineering," who deals with the subject of arrears in an article on the subject. The writer says:—"A chief engineer, departing on leave, was found by the relieving officer so surrounded by files that there was scarcely any space to move. 'Heavens!' he said, 'are you bequeathing me his legacy of arrears?' 'No, no, my dear boy, I have still a day left. You come to-morrow and you will find the room quite clear.' The relieving officer came on the morrow and the room was clear; but in half an hour all the files were back again, and in each was written, 'As I am giving over charge to-morrow, I leave this for my successor to settle.' Arrears are to be disposed of *non tali auxilio*, perfunctory methods come home to roost, and the evil can only be cured by ability and decision of character, not by irresolution and wavering. Arrears of monetary debt may possibly be a misfortune, arrears of work are only a disgrace."

We, most of us, make more or less effective struggles against the mass of papers which collect round us like leaves in an urn and against letters which we are inclined to leave unanswered, books which are unwanted until an emergency arises in which we cannot lay our hands on them in time. We regret that there is no automatic method of keeping in front of us what we want and nothing more, and that there is no bookcase which would only contain the books we want to consult at the moment.



R.A. 1924. "DANS DE REYE." NEWBURY A. TRENT, Sculptor.

Book Reviews.

"Architecture in England." By Cyril Davenport, V.D., F.S.A.
Published by Methuen. 6s. net.

On the paper wrapper of this little volume is written: "A short, complete and clearly written account of the main changes in architectural style that have taken place in England mostly since the Conquest. It is amply illustrated by detail drawings by the author and some carefully chosen photographic plates." This description gives a very truthful impression of the contents of the book. But I think the author would have been well advised had he started with the sentence on page 4: "The Romans under Julius Cæsar came to Britain . . ." Most of the matter prior to this sentence is, in my opinion, beside the scope of the book and of a very controversial nature. The author starts as follows: "Architecture is the greatest of the Arts; it is the only one that is produced in accordance with definitely acknowledged laws of right and wrong, and these laws can be taught to a student." The first part of this sentence makes, in my opinion, a definite claim, which is completely contradicted in the second half of the sentence. No Art could, in my opinion, be the greatest of the Arts if it were circumscribed by definite rules. Such a state of affairs would reduce the Art to series of results obtained by manipulations, adaptations and combinations of the recognised elements within the scope of the fixed rules. Mr. Davenport seems to place a finality to architectural development and design when he says that architecture

is produced in accordance with definitely acknowledged laws of right and wrong. The author's statements on page 2 seem to me to require some modification if the claim of architecture as the greatest of the Arts is to be maintained: "But with architecture it is different. If anyone wants a building made entirely in the Doric style it can be accurately done by any good architect, because the particular forms used in Doric architecture are definite, and the same may be said about any of the great styles. Architecture is fundamentally a mathematical problem in each case, and in the specifications and plans which have to be meticulously prepared for the building of any large structure problems which can only be resolved by mathematical solution crop up continually; and unless all these are properly worked out and applied, the building will not stand up for long." I have always been in agreement with this definition of architecture, but, admitting this to be so, I have been unable to reconcile this fact with the claim put forward by so many that architecture is the greatest of the Arts. A subject that can be presented in the form of a mathematical problem is surely not one of the Arts. Mr. Davenport continues to inform his readers that architecture "is also a scientific subject, and unless an architect understands something about tensile strengths of metals and their powers as to strains and stresses, the chemical peculiarities of stones, bricks, cements and woods, and the geological qualities of his chosen site, his building is certainly likely to go wrong."

To refer back again to Mr. Davenport's opening sentences in his book on "Architecture in England": "Architecture is the greatest of the Arts; it is the only one that is produced in accordance with definitely acknowledged laws of right and wrong, and these laws can be taught to a student. Painting, drawing and sculpture can all be studied under teachers, but neither of them possesses definite laws of right and wrong; rules can only be laid down by individual masters according to their own views, with which no other artist is likely to agree entirely. Successful mannerisms of all great masters have been acquired by independent study and experience and certainly have never been taught. No two artists, however eminent, would ever paint a given tree in exactly the same way; and this shows that there is really no right way to paint a tree, but only the way that each particular artist finds out that enables him to paint a tree as he likes it best." All these points seem to infer that as painting, drawing and sculpture are not subject to definite rules, it places these arts in an inferior position to architecture.

With such an inference I cannot at all agree. Neither am I prepared to place architecture in the position of the greatest of the Arts. Very possibly it might by virtue of the force of necessity be the most ancient—though this is very doubtful, if we admit, as moderns do, that all building is not architecture. But if Mr. Davenport's theory is correct, then architecture, in my opinion, is only one of the lesser arts, on a level with decorative design as applied to any industry. The textile designer, for example, is hemmed in by rules; he is obliged to consider a number of very practical circumstances. Just as the architect, he is obliged to recognise the commanding influences of many other materials. In fact, his work consists of the application and manipulation of a number of different materials which have very definite characters of their own, all of which, like iron, steel, brick, and stone, have to be used according to circumstances. But the painter and sculptor, dramatist and musician, are in a paradise of freedom by comparison. Hence, by virtue of their freedom, they would, in my opinion, take precedence over the arts which are ruled by fixed laws and regulations. Below I quote from Harmsworth's "Universal Encyclopædia," which places architecture on rather a higher level than does Mr. Davenport:—

"Architecture is not mere building; it is not dependent upon size or importance, nor on the quality of material, whether brick or of marble; neither does it depend upon decoration, for some buildings of the severest type charm simply by the beauty of proportion, while those that most often offend are over-decorated. It is the result of the artist's knowledge and skill brought to bear on his work, giving it distinctive character and style and raising it to the rank of an art—of architecture. The art includes the building of fortifications and, in a wider sense, of ships, and in these it generally possesses the element of constructive fitness and suitability to its purpose, which are essential qualities in architecture."

The new "Gresham Encyclopædia" states that "Architecture in a general sense is the art of designing and constructing houses, bridges, and other buildings for the purposes of civil life, or in a more limited but very common sense, that branch of the fine arts which has for its object the production of edifices not only convenient for their special purpose but characterised by unity, beauty and often grandeur."

CITY ARCHITECT.

"The ABC of XIX Century English Ceramic Art." J. F. Blacker. 15s. net. Stanley Paul & Co.

This volume should serve as a very useful guide to collectors and should be carefully read by all who contemplate starting to collect pottery and china. It deals, as is indicated by the title, with nineteenth century examples. Most architects make collections of some kind or another. Some devote their leisure time to acquiring choice pieces of furniture, others have a leaning to pewter, some fancy engravings, but a great number turn to pottery. In this field many find relaxation and pleasure because many specimens possess wonderful charm for their colour beauties quite apart from their attraction as articles of value.

As time goes on the examples of earlier times find their final resting places in museums, and a collector might easily become discouraged by the fact that the specimens he needs to make his collection in any way representative are either unprocureable or so expensive as to be altogether beyond his reach. "The ABC of XIX Century English Ceramic Art" seeks to awaken the interest in examples which should be plentiful though even this comparative plenty will soon disappear. The volume can be most heartily recommended as a most useful handbook and guide to the period that has been selected. Many of its pages are also very interesting reading, quite apart from a collector's interest.

"The Decorative Arts in England, 1660-1780." By H. H. Mulliner. £3 10s. net. Imperial 4to, in antique style, parchment back, gilt top. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., 94 High Holborn, W.C.1.

The author's object has been to embrace for the first time in one work representative examples of the various decorative articles produced in England during the seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries, and, in the opinion of eminent art authorities, the *catalogue raisonné* which Colonel Mulliner has compiled may be considered in many respects as the most important contribution yet offered towards the study of English decorative art. He has succeeded in showing what excellent work was produced in this country during that great movement in the decorative arts which enveloped both England and France from the latter part of the seventeenth until towards the end of the eighteenth century. The results of that movement in France are well known and have been fully appreciated, but the developments in this country have until recently almost entirely lacked similarly enthusiastic research.

The Wallace Collection at Hertford House is, of course, far larger, but what the Wallace Collection has effected for French decorative art the collection described in this book has—up to the limit of its size—fulfilled for English. A difference, however, is that whilst at Hertford House we see specimens with the character and style of which we are already well acquainted, few of us were aware that English work had reached the high standard of the objects illustrated in this volume. Both collections embrace the work of the same period, the late seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries, and it was then that decorative surroundings such as are aimed at to-day reached perfection. A volume illustrating a collection of objects of that period, therefore, should possess great educational value. In our museums, unfortunately, the early examples are almost exclusively represented and these, though of interest to the antiquary, possess little value for the practical designer.

In the Victoria and Albert Museum, for instance, in certain sections the English examples are representative, but the absence of important examples of decorative work (especially in our eighteenth century furniture) is regrettable. French decorative art can be studied in the Jones Collection and at the Wallace Museum, but of English work (apart from the Victoria and Albert Museum) we have only access to Kensington and Hampton Court Palaces, both of which are very scantily furnished.

Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., have rendered a very considerable service to the modern designer in supporting and encouraging the author, Colonel Mulliner, to make his collection. The volume, with its profusion of finely reproduced illustrations of specimens, collected with rare taste and discrimination by the author during many years, fills an important gap in the literature of English Decorative Art and should prove of great interest and value.

Present Day Art Tendency.

Referring to the note of the Print Room in the British Museum, a very apt description of the present-day art tendency was given in the June issue of "Woman," page 197, under the title of "Problems of the Hour": "Just look what the men are giving us in the sacred name of 'Art'! We have to look at daubs worthy of Euclid in the nursery, and try to appear polite while Vorticists tell us they are pictures. Fat, misshapen women, with raw, red and bulbous arms, leer at us from screens

pronounced by critics to be the choicest achievements of the age. At our concerts, among a little that is vital and vivid, we listen to many a miracle of meandering dissonance. In poetry the sound-before-sense school wins the prize for the largest output. Novelty is the one indispensable requirement. In fact, so far from genius being an infinite capacity for taking pains, it seems to be an infinite capacity for giving other people pains!" In architecture novelty does not seem to be the complaint. Looking down Regent Street, we are inclined to view the finished buildings with sadness, because they are so very dull and remind us of a period of architectural expression we very much desire to forget and referred to in "The Pleasures of Architecture," by C. and A. Williams Ellis, as a period of sixty years' duration in which architecture, broadly speaking, was a lost Art. This period would extend from about 1840-1900. What pleasures can we find in New Oxford Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, parts of Oxford Street? The Strand is being partly rebuilt. We wonder if the new buildings are going to be a revelation or whether our architects still are lacking in courage.

Leslie & Co., Ltd.

The business was in 1894 formed into a limited liability company, the managing director being Mr. Frederick Shingleton, M.V.O., who is a Past President of the Institute of Builders, the London Master Builders' Association, and other kindred associations. Among some of the important works executed by the firm are the Smallpox Hospital, Dartford; Park Hospital, Hither Green; the Chadwell Heath Mental Asylum; new factory at Bow for Messrs. Bryant & May; and the Strand Palace Hotel. Examples of prominent public buildings are the Royal College of Science, South Kensington; foundations of the Victoria and Albert Museum; the refronting of Buckingham Palace, involving the erection of 85,000 cubic feet of stone and over 100 rods of brickwork, the whole being completed in the short space of just under three months. The result of this achievement was the conferring by His Majesty the King of the distinction of M.V.O. upon the managing director. Much reinforced concrete work has been executed, including the New Science Museum at South Kensington. Among works at present being carried out are a new pumping station at Hammer-smith for the London County Council, and the extensive contract for the Eleventh Mental Hospital, at Epsom, on a site of 75 acres, just completed, which is illustrated in this issue.

Royal Sanitary Institute Congress.

The 35th Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at Liverpool from July 14 to 19. Already 500 delegates from 275 authorities representing Foreign and Colonial Governments, Government Departments, County Councils, Boroughs, Urban and Rural Councils, Port Sanitary Authorities, etc., have been appointed.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Salisbury, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O., C.B., as president of the congress, will deliver his address at the inaugural meeting in the St. George's Hall on July 14 at 8.30 p.m.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor is chairman of the Local Committee, who have in hand the arrangements for receiving and entertaining the delegates and members, who are expected to number over 1,000.

The meetings will be held in the University and the Town Hall. The congress is divided into sections—sanitary science, engineering and architecture, maternity and child welfare, personal and domestic hygiene, industrial hygiene; and conferences—representatives of sanitary authorities, port sanitary authorities, medical officers of health, engineers and surveyors to sanitary authorities, veterinary inspectors, sanitary inspectors, health visitors.

Among the subjects to be discussed may be mentioned:—Cancer, diphtheria, ante-natal clinics, child welfare, dental and school medical work, clean milk, handling of food, meat inspection, and training of inspectors, housing, regional surveys, arterial roads, town planning, and water supply, industrial welfare, lighting of factories, ship sanitation, work of health visitors, school nurses and midwives.

The Health Exhibition will be on a larger scale than usual; exhibits representing all phases of municipal sanitation and domestic comfort will be shown.

Visits have been arranged to works and institutions illustrative of the sanitary administration of Liverpool and District; to Widnes, Port Sunlight, Chester and the Isle of Man.

The Royal Institute of British Architects has published a list of books recommended to students. Copies of the list may be obtained free on application at the Royal Institute.

WARNEFORD HOUSE GLOUCESTERSHIRE



R.A. 1924. WARNEFORD HOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. ANDREW N. PRENTICE, Architect.

Architectural Draughtsmanship.

The Royal Academy Exhibition at Burlington House, Piccadilly, has been open six weeks or more, and whilst we have commented upon the architecture, painting and sculpture this year, it seems only fitting that a few remarks should be written about the architectural draughtsmanship.

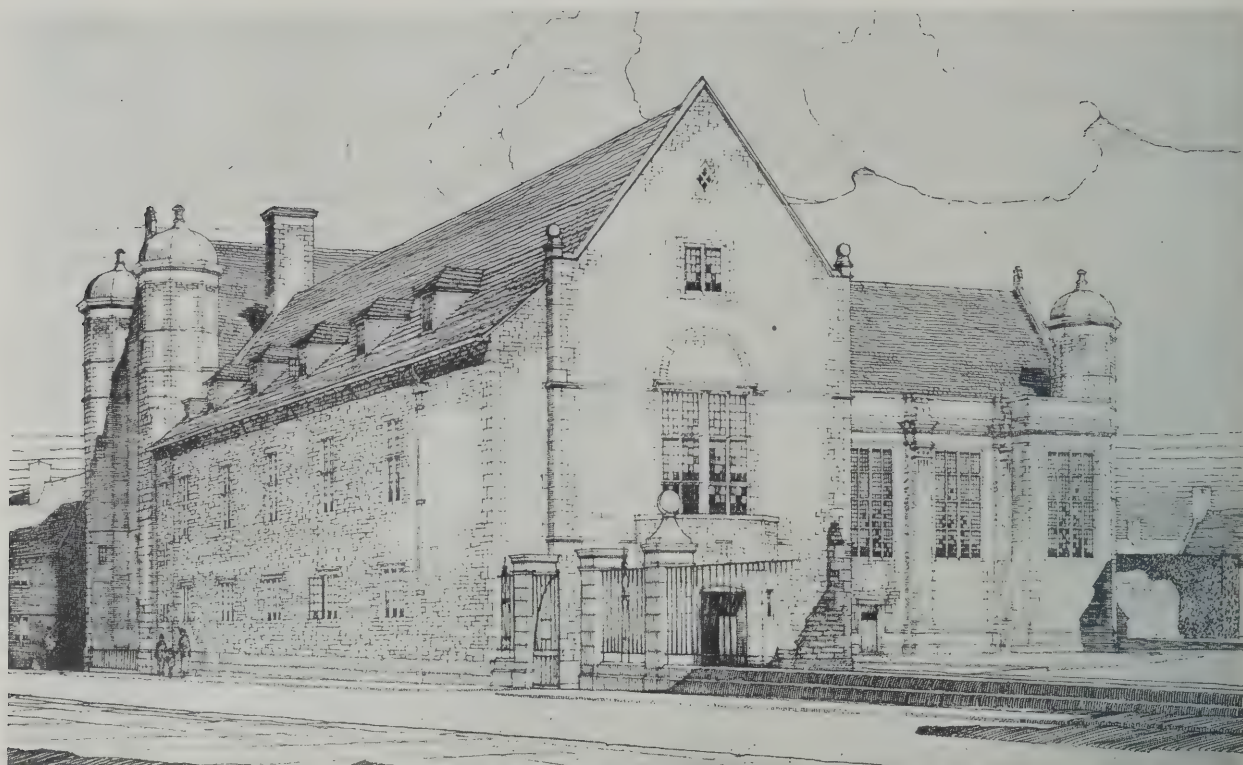
We have before us the work of men who year after year are building up an ever-improving reputation for themselves. Some new men have entered the field and have brought with them fresh individualities which are a distinct gain to the exhibition. We are inclined to deplore the lack of pen and pencil drawings, but possibly in the near future we may witness a return to these mediums. The general impression, even after more than six visits to the Gallery, is that the artists have aimed more at expressing architecture than pictorial effects. We are glad to say, with a few exceptions, the drawings are straightforward; by this we mean the artists have not used the spray and texture effects so frequently as has been their custom. Writing from the point of view of the sincere desire to make as pleasing and truthful reproductions of the various drawings in the technical press, this omission is a decided gain. What may be very effective in a purple tone is not good when rendered in black and white. Of course we clearly understand that in the main the drawings are rendered with the idea of pleasing the Hanging Committee. Some day we hope both the perspective artist and the architectural client will give some thought to the Press, who, after all, supply the wider publicity. We are not to be understood as making any direct appeal. But we will admit that the spray and granulated effects so lately used by architects and perspective artists were not conducive to the work of making satisfactory reproductions of the exhibits. Messrs. Cyril A. Farey and P. D. Hepworth contribute between them all the drawings of outstanding merit, and the former has about thirty perspectives hung in this year's exhibition. Messrs. H. Chalton Bradshaw, Lowry & Woodhouse, C. W. English, J. D. M. Harvey and Mr. Salwey also, with others, contribute some very good perspectives.

Our chief cause for complaint in connection with this year's exhibition is directed against the hanging authorities and those who have the general arrangements under their care. Architecture must undoubtedly only be recognised as the greatest of the arts by members of the architectural profession, because were this otherwise we surely could expect the Royal Academy of Fine Arts to devote more space in their annual exhibition to architectural works and drawings. But the contrary is the rule, and this year, not content with restricting the premier art to a

small gallery, they place three large models in the same room. We are still more surprised when we discover that all three of these models are sent in by the elect. That these men should be content without protest to have their work shown to such great disadvantage is quite incomprehensible. Sir Reginald Blomfield's model of the Menin Gate Memorial should be seen from a standpoint some distance removed from the model. But in this gallery such a procedure is quite impossible. Sir John J. Burnet's model of the Cavalry War Memorial, Stanhope Gate, Hyde Park, cannot be examined to any advantage in its present position. Surely if single specimens of sculpture can be dotted about in the rooms exhibiting paintings, architectural models could also be extended the same courtesy. In fact, we venture to think that both Sir Reginald Blomfield's and Sir John J. Burnet's models would have added considerable interest to some of the galleries. Very possibly those who had the arrangement under their authority will seek to justify themselves by stating that the models placed where they are afforded an opportunity for including further exhibits by hanging them on the pedestals of these models. The very fact that the Hanging Committee have utilised these spaces is, in our opinion, an admission of the fact that the gallery is too small. Why should Decorative Art be included in the Architectural Room?

The designs by R. Anning Bell, R.A., are very pleasing and good, but nobody will admit, we are sure, that, shown as they are in conjunction with architectural perspectives, either subject is in any way benefitted. Take No. 1280, a design for a piece of mosaic on a level to the right, is 1276, a picture of the rebuilding of some business premises, above which is hung 1275, Our Lord's Passion design for east window, All Saints' Church, Derby. Immediately below the highly coloured mosaic is a very delicate pencil drawing, 1279, Prideaux Memorial Picture Gallery and Drawing School, Eton College. On the right top side another delicate pencil drawing is hung, 1281, and on a level 1282, Stapleford Church, Notts, with Memorial Chapel. Of course we know that the Royal Academicians and Associates of the R.A. occupy on the line positions throughout the exhibition, but in the interests of common sense we should think this rule might be modified occasionally. Neither 1266 nor 1280 would have lost in value had they been placed a little higher up and permitted the pencil drawings to be examined in easier attitudes. But it is our opinion that all the Decorative Art exhibits should find room elsewhere.

We well recollect the great public interest that was shown when the Royal Academy Galleries were lent for an Arts and



R.A. 1924. HALL & CLASSROOMS, UPPINGHAM SCHOOL. W. G. NEWTON, Architect.

Crafts exhibition, and it was our hope that after this striking evidence of the public interest the Royal Academy would have extended a more encouraging hand to the arts and crafts. But this hope has not materialised; these workers' exhibits have been thrust into the already overcrowded Architectural Room. What rule or idea governs the Hanging Committee for the architectural section it is very difficult to discover; probably a desire to keep the drawings of a subject as much together as possible is the prevailing thought. We are certain that were any great consideration as to the harmony or suitability of one picture in relation to its immediate neighbour in the minds of the Hanging Committee, many of the terribly bad examples of bad taste would not have occurred this year.

Take the position of 1246 in relation to 1245, both splendid drawings, but they should certainly never have been hung close together.

Neither should 1249 have been placed above 1250. Why place Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., in such a poor position behind a model?

We would have preferred to give 1209 a place just above the line in the centre of the gallery opposite the entrance to the same, so that spectators from a considerable distance would have had an opportunity to admire the strength and fine proportions of the building represented, and the gallery would have gained much by having a fine central feature. Drawings of a bold character are hung on a level with the eye, and others full of delicate detail are skied; colour schemes which clash and kill each other are placed carefully side by side. This year the sins of the hanging authorities will be long remembered.

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

JUNE 20, 1874.

THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.

An ordinary meeting was held on the 12th inst.; Mr. E. J. Tarver, president, in the chair. A list of members nominated for office during the ensuing session was read, and it was stated that the committee had sanctioned the formation of a class for the study of architectural science under the direction of Mr. Robertson, and those who intended to join the class were invited to send in their names as soon as possible.

Mr. Robertson said it was proposed to arrange the programme during the recess, and it was desirable that as many members as possible should send in their names before the end of the session.

Some other preliminary business was disposed of, including the passing of a vote of thanks to Messrs. Tarring & Son, for allowing members to visit the Congregational Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, on the 6th inst.; and Mr. Bowes A. Paice (hon. sec.) announced that the annual dinner of the Association would be held on Friday, July 3, at the Holborn Restaurant, the price of the tickets being 5s.

The President said that a Paper had been promised for that evening by Mr. Penrose, but he was unable to attend, and had postponed the reading of the Paper until that day fortnight. Such being the case, the committee, after considering what should be done, thought that as the subject of architectural education would be discussed at the General Conference, it would be desirable to talk over the matter beforehand amongst themselves, and elicit any suggestions which members might be prepared to offer.

The discussion which followed took the form of a general conversation, and the reporters withdrew.

Waterloo Bridge.

It was stated at this week's meeting of the London County Council that "if matters continue as they are," there was reason to hope that pedestrian traffic would be able to cross Waterloo Bridge in two or three weeks' time, to be followed later by vehicular traffic. It transpired also that the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings had submitted a report to the Council on the subject of the treatment of the bridge, on which the Improvement Committee will report in due course. The Chairman of the Improvements Committee said he was not in a position to circulate particulars of the society's scheme. The Council approved a special estimate of £200,000 in respect of the construction of the temporary bridge, to cover the estimated cost during the current financial year.

Dangerous Structures in London.

As the law at present stands, personal proceedings against an owner for dangerous or neglected structure expenses must be taken within six months of the service of the Council's demand for reimbursement of the cost incurred in removal. In practice this period is found insufficient in many cases to obtain evidence of ownership. The Council has therefore decided to seek legislation to provide that the time within which personal proceedings against owners must be taken should be extended to twelve months from the service of the demand.

Trade Note.

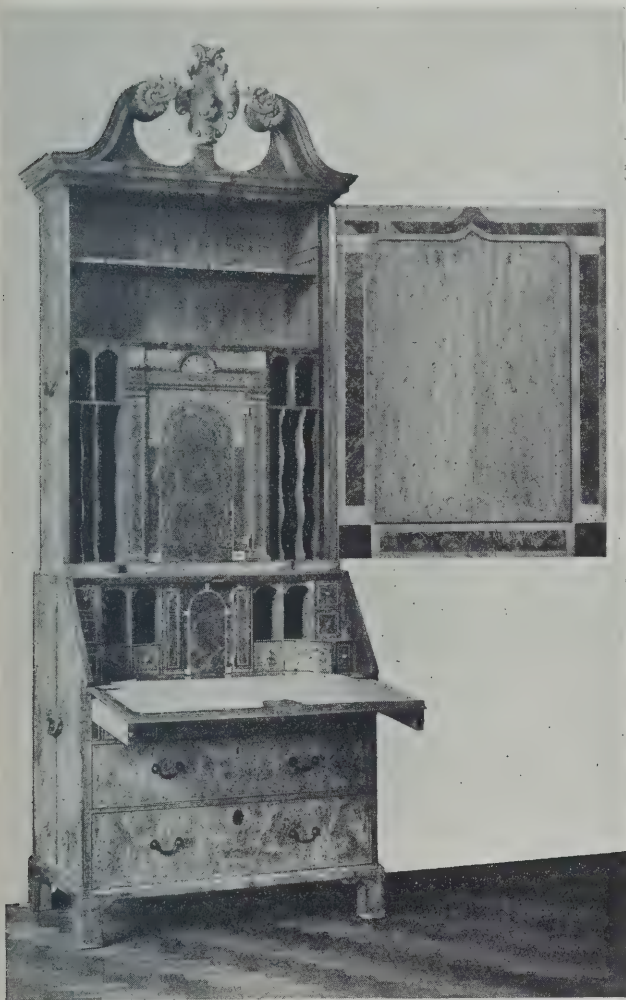
Boyle's latest patent "Air-Pump" ventilators have been applied to Lanchester Memorial Hall and Institute, Lanchester. Supplied by Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, ventilating engineers, Holborn Viaduct, London.

The Art Metal Equipment Co., Ltd., of 184 to 188, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2, have just issued their Leaflet No. 14 giving particulars and showing illustrations of their steel fire-proof partitions in which they specialise for offices, factories, workshops, etc. They can be supplied solid or with fire-resisting glass inserted. They also show designs of ornamental gates and iron staircases.

Victoria and Albert Museum.

Department of Woodwork.

The Victoria and Albert Museum has recently purchased a writing cabinet, signed "Samuel Bennett, London Fecit." This is an important example of English furniture of the time of Queen Anne, made of walnut wood, with marquetry decoration of arabesque ornament in light wood. The upper part, closed by a door inset with a mirror, framed with fluted pilasters and panels of inlaid ornament, contains a cupboard and shelves, in which the architectural motive suggested in the decoration of the exterior is cleverly repeated. The lower part, with slope, front and drawers, is fitted with a central cupboard flanked by drawers and pigeonholes. The whole is surmounted by a pediment with carved scrolls and shield.



This piece of furniture is of unusual importance from more than one point of view. It is a distinguished example of English furniture of the early part of the eighteenth century marked by high quality of workmanship. The fact that it bears the signature of the maker (inlaid on the inner surface of the door) makes it of particular value as a record, for it was not the usual practice for cabinet makers in England to sign their furniture. Two other signed examples of the work of Samuel Bennett are known, one of which further shows that he lived in Monmouth Square, London. The fine proportions of the details and the restraint and good taste of the ornamental details give it special value as an example for students. The cabinet is at present exhibited in the West Hall of the Museum, near the main entrance.

International Congress on Architectural Education. London, July 28—August 2, 1924.

Headquarters.—The headquarters of the Congress will be at the R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1. Day of Arrival, Monday, July 28.—Members will assemble in London. In the evening at the R.I.B.A. there will be a reception of the members of the Congress by the President and Council R.I.B.A. Members will have an opportunity of inspecting the Exhibition in the R.I.B.A. Galleries. Tuesday, July 29.—In the morning there will be a meeting of the members at the R.I.B.A., when papers on architectural education in the past in America, France, Italy

and England will be read and discussed. In the afternoon the members will assemble at the Architectural Association, 34 Bedford Square, W.C., for a visit to the School of Architecture, and proceed thence on a visit to the Bartlett School of Architecture, University of London, Gower Street, W.C. Wednesday, July 30.—In the morning papers on architectural education in the present in America, France, Italy and England will be read and discussed. In the afternoon members will assemble at the R.I.B.A., and will be conveyed to Lambeth Pier, where they will embark on a private steam launch and proceed to Greenwich by river. Tea may be obtained in Greenwich Park. Members will then return by steamer. The cost of this trip will be 8s., excluding tea. Thursday, July 31.—In the morning members will meet at the R.I.B.A., when papers on architectural education in the future in America, France, Italy and England will be read and discussed. In the afternoon a visit will be paid to the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. The party will be conducted round the Exhibition by Sir Lawrence Weaver, Director United Kingdom Exhibits, Sir John Simpson and Mr. Maxwell Ayrton. Tickets, 3s., including admission to the Exhibition. In the evening the Congress banquet will take place at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, S.W. Tickets, 12s. 6d., exclusive of wines; 32s. 6d., inclusive of wines, etc. Friday, August 1.—The day will be devoted to a visit to Cambridge. Members may proceed to Cambridge by motor or by rail. Luncheon will be served in the Hall of Gonville and Caius College. The Cambridge School of Architecture and other places of interest in Cambridge will be visited during the day. Arrangements will be made for tea. The inclusive charges in connection with this trip will be as follows: Motor, luncheon and tea ticket, 32s.; rail (3rd class), luncheon and tea ticket, 13s. 11d.; rail (1st class), luncheon and tea ticket, 18s. 6d. Saturday, August 2.—The following conducted visits have been arranged: Westminster Abbey, by Professor W. R. Lethaby; St. Paul's Cathedral, by Mr. Mervyn Macartney; the City churches, by Mr. Arthur Keen and Mr. Arthur Stratton; the British Museum, by Sir John Burnet. For further particulars apply to Everard J. Haynes, Secretary, Board of Architectural Education, 9 Conduit Street, London, W.

Recent Acquisitions to the British Museum.

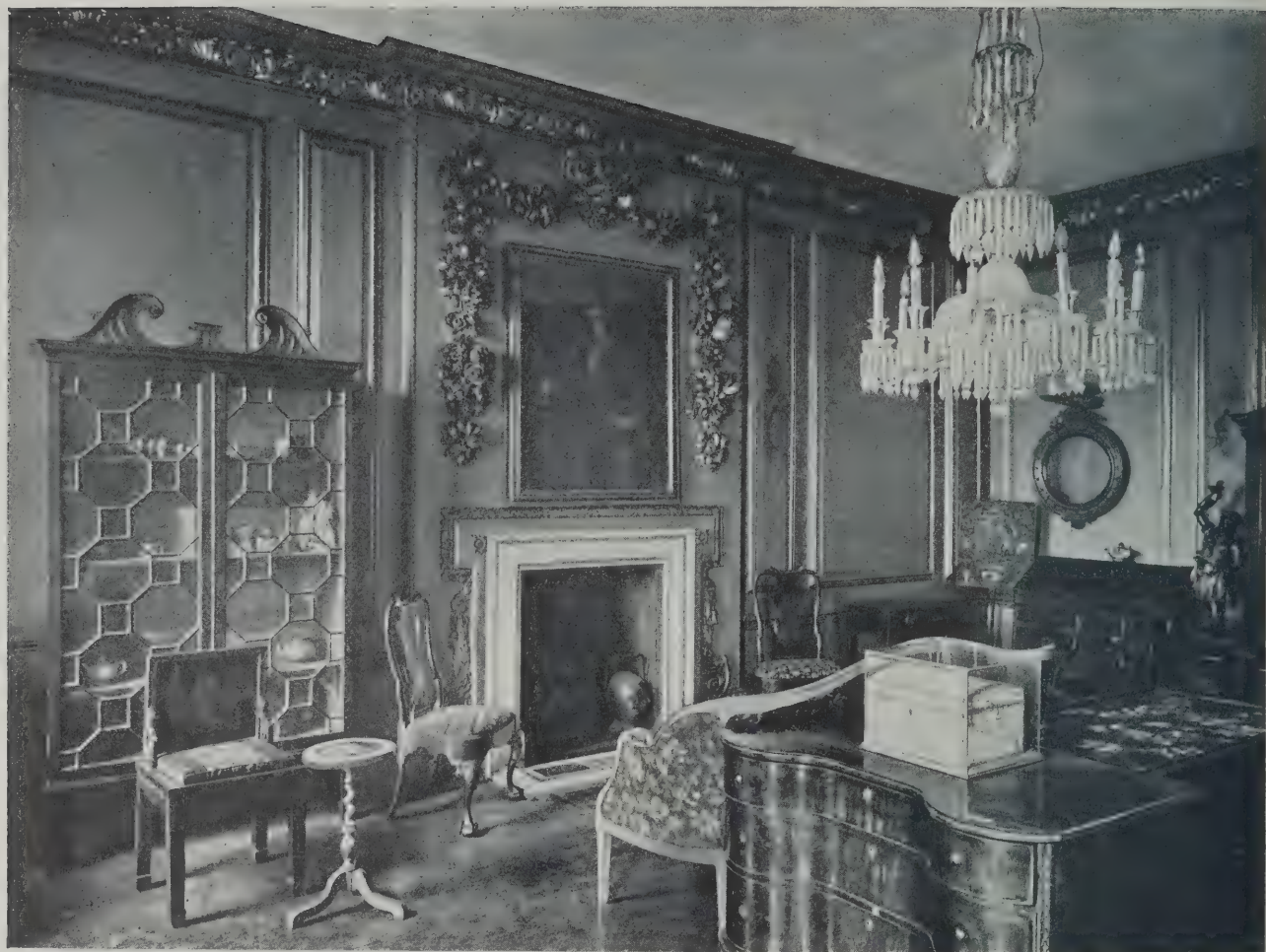
Amongst the recently acquired exhibits in the print room at the British Museum I found six originals by Jean Louis Forain in Slope E. They were presented to the gallery by the artist, and whilst they are quite good of their kind, they represent nothing out of the way. And were I to travel through England and visit many of the different art schools, I should undoubtedly find many studies of equal if not superior merit. Many of our artists would consider it a great honour to have their work permanently shown in the British Museum, and would no doubt willingly present specimens to the authorities. "A Nude Woman," half length, by Edgar Degas (painter, etcher and lithographer), exhibited in the same case, with sketches of horses in red chalk and a black and white representation of a jockey are also examples of very medium merit, and certainly not worthy of the display given at the British Museum. The authorities seem altogether to have lost sight of the educational value of the galleries. Many members of the public inspect the exhibits without any personal knowledge of what is really good and what is poor and frivolous; and everything shown has to these people received a certain hall-mark of recognised merit. Some might be encouraged to emulate the style and standard and be entirely misled.

A little farther on in the same gallery, under the similar title of recent acquisitions, I found a watercolour sketch or impression by Camille Pissarro. Perhaps my feelings were best described as being those of utter astonishment that such an exhibit should find its place in our National Museum. It may be useful to possess examples of the work of Continental artists, but some sort of discretion should be exercised, and original watercolours hardly come under the title of prints. A sepia sketch entitled "The Woman Bathing," by the same artist, is quite an ordinary effort. The woman's figure is neither graceful nor well drawn. Nobody will surely be able to attach some wonderful inspiration to these two sketches. It is perhaps a pity that some authority or showman was not near at hand to explain to me with bated breath and expressive face the hidden meaning in these two—to me—very ordinary and, if I may be permitted to say so, rather poor artistic efforts.

A study in red chalk and a small etching representing "Maternity," by Odilon Redon (born 1840, died 1916), also shown in the same case, were possibly the only examples of this artist's work available to the authorities, but I feel sure that had the artist been alive he would have preferred either to be differently represented or not at all.

H.W.M.K.

General News.



INTERIOR OF A ROOM IN SOHO SQUARE.

BARNES.—The District Council are negotiating with the Surrey County Council for the widening of Richmond Road at Hogger's Corner. Plans as follows have been approved:—Five houses, Stanley Road, by Mr. R. B. Rowell. Detached house, Sheen Common Drive, by Messrs. Couch & Coupland. Twelve houses, Gordon Avenue, by Mr. W. Burridge. Eight garages, Nevrek Road, by Mr. G. W. Smith. Six garages, Sheen Lane, by Mr. G. W. Smith. Four houses, Sheen Lane, by Messrs. Rosevears, Ltd. Detached house, Hertford Avenue, by Mr. Walter Smith. Two houses, Vicarage Road, by Mr. R. Skinner. Detached house, Hertford Avenue (No. 17), by Mr. Walter Smith. Two houses, Bicester Road, by Mr. A. M. Rose. A public convenience is to be constructed at Milestone Green at a cost of £3,000.

BARNESLEY.—The Town Council have authorised the provision of new sanitary fittings at the Kendray Hospital, at a cost of about £75. The Council are considering alternative methods of duplicating a portion of the water main from Wortley to Barnsley. The Council are negotiating for a site for a recreation ground at Smithies. At the Council's Health Committee a letter was read from the local property owners' association with regard to the issue of a notice signed by the Town Clerk which could be served on occupiers of houses with regard to stoppages in sinks and drains, and after hearing a report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector on the subject the Committee recommend that the Town Clerk be instructed to inform the association that in the event of cases arising of this nature the Chief Sanitary Inspector would arrange for any necessary notice to be served on the occupier concerned, on being notified of the nuisance. The Town Council have passed the following plans: A. G. & J. S. Hunter, additions to houses, 38 and 40 Victoria Crescent West; John Smith's Tadcaster Brewery Co., alterations and additions to Rose and Crown Hotel, Mount Vernon Road; W. Storrs, bungalow, Huddersfield Road, and two bungalows, Westbourne Grove; W. Ashton, bungalow, Wombwell Lane, Stairfoot; James Hartley, one house, Burton Road; F. W. Oxley, eight houses, Dodworth Road and Keresforth Avenue; R. Goodforth, two houses, Dodworth Road; Barnsley and District Traction Company, Ltd., extensions to garage,

Upper Sheffield Road; D. R. Snowden & Son, Ltd., additions to warehouse, Wellington Street.—The Streets Committee recommends acceptance of the tender of Messrs. Edward Wood & Co., £494 10s., for the structural steel work at the new tramways depot.—The Town Clerk submitted a recommendation for putting in hand the street improvement at the junction of Church Street and Regent Street at the earliest possible date, and the Borough Engineer and Surveyor was asked to submit a plan showing the proposed lay-out at this corner.—The Housing Committee has considered a report by the Borough Engineer on the increase in price and shortage of bricks in relation to the Corporation housing schemes, and instructed the engineer to obtain certain additional information for further consideration as to concrete houses. The Barnsley Main Colliery Co. are to erect 10 houses at Candy Cross and promise to bear in mind a suggestion by the Council that no payment in excess of the standard wages should be made. The company state that they will, if possible, place the contract with a firm of builders having their own complete staff to carry out the work, which will obviate the withdrawal of labour from any of the Corporation schemes.—The Corporation is purchasing a site at Wilthorpe for a new elementary school.

BEDFORD.—The Electricity Committee of the Corporation propose the purchase of the Castle Close Estate for £4,350. Works at the sewage pumping station are proposed at an estimated cost of £2,440. Plans recommended: Conversion into two flats, 46 Ashburnham Road, Mr. W. B. Stonebridge, for Mr. P. J. Dunstall, and alterations at Ship Inn, Bromham Road, Mr. E. H. C. Inskip, for Messrs. Chas. Wells, Ltd.

BEDLINGTON.—The Ministry of Transport has promised to consider a scheme for the reconstruction of Bedlington Bridge.

BEVERLEY.—The Racecourse Co. have decided to demolish the old grand stand and erect a new one, for which plans have been passed by the Town Council.

BLYTH.—The following plans have been passed by the Town Council: Four pairs of cottages, Columbia Terrace, for Mr. Robertson; 20 houses, Arcadia Terrace, for Cowper Coal Co.; a house, Plessey Road, for Messrs. Berg & Turnbull; premises, Waterloo Road, for Y.M.C.A.

No. 3

June, 1924

SOLIGNUM EXHIBITION NEWS

Brown Solignum on the Colonial Bank.

ARCHITECTS from Overseas will find special interest in the use of Brown Solignum on the Colonial Bank, a fine job which may well serve as a model for treatment of buildings in other parts of the Empire.

Undoubtedly the use of Solignum under the extraordinary extremes of climate experienced in the British Empire—a result of its far-flung area—is proof of its outstanding quality as a wood preservative. For wherever the British Flag flies Solignum is increasingly sold and used. In Hong Kong and India, Australia and West Indies; from the frozen North of Canada to the sweltering heat of West Africa is a far cry so far as extremes of the thermometer are concerned, but Solignum is equally successful under all conditions, and in the unreliable climate of Great Britain its increasing use is the most substantial testimonial of its value.



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Architects, Building Contractors and others from Overseas interested in preservation of wood and visiting this country during the Exhibition are cordially invited to meet the Manufacturers, whose services based on their unique experience in wood preservation are freely offered to all interested in these problems. They may thereby find the secret of some difficult problems hitherto defying solution.

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BRENTFORD.—An amended scheme has been prepared by the Urban District Council for covering the market at a cost of £2,000.—Land in Burford Road is being acquired for an additional housing scheme.—It is suggested that a porters' lodge and a garage should be erected at the hospital.—A convenience is to be constructed in Ealing Road at a cost of about £400.—Plans passed:—Factory and cottage, Lionel Road, for Messrs. Emerson & Norris; petrol service station, Chiswick High Road, for Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd.

CENTRAL SCHOOL FOR GOSPORT.—The Gosport Education Committee have previously adopted a design submitted by Mr. L. M. Field, for the proposed new central school. The design is of semi-open-air type and the boys' department provides accommodation for 200 in the classrooms, with a handicrafts room for 20 boys. The cost of this section or complete

GLASGOW.—Mr. Thomas Somers, Chief Assistant Civil Engineer in the Office of Public Works, has been appointed temporarily as City Engineer and Master of Works.—The Scottish Board of Health has approved plans of extension at Mearnskirck Sanatorium for the accommodation of 164 children.—Structural alterations are proposed at the X-ray department of Ruchill Hospital, at an estimated cost of £940.—In connection with the bridge across the Clyde at Oswald Street provision is made for the extension of Broomielaw Wharf, and the Statute Labour Committee recommends acceptance of the offer of the Considere Constructions, Ltd., for the work at a cost of £8,266.—For a convenience in Alexandra Park the following tenders are recommended:—Constructional work, Messrs. Robert Murdock & Son, £1,036; sanitary fittings, Messrs. H. Twaddle & Son, £144.—The Corporation have been empowered to borrow £275,000



INTERIOR OF BEACONSFIELD GOLF CLUB, STANLEY HAM, Architect.

design is estimated at £4,360 on the prices of labour and material ruling in April. The design also includes provision for a girls' department and school hall to be erected later.

EAST HAM.—New Sunday-school and Church Rooms are to be built at the corner of High Street North and Berkeley Road. Plans approved: Sports pavilion, adjoining Manor Way, J. and R. Roof; 8 houses, Johnstone Road, for Mr. Harris; 16 houses, Nos. 261-291 Burges Road, for J. W. Lohden; 15 houses (8 in Tilbury Road and 7 in Southchurch Road), for H. Stokes; 6 houses, Arthur Road, for H. Stokes. The Council have disapproved of plans for the extension of the grand stand at the West Ham United Football Ground. The Borough Surveyor has been asked to prepare an alternative scheme for the extension of vapour baths. A loan of £1,972 has been sanctioned to raise and drain the Barking Road recreation ground.

FALMOUTH.—The Town Council are to proceed with the second portion of the sewage scheme, the Minister of Health having sanctioned a loan of £55,000 for the purchase. Messrs. G. Wakeman & Sons are to construct a shelter on the pier, their tender being £98, the lowest. Plans passed: Additions, Nos. 22 and 23 Killigrew Street, for Messrs. Cooks & Co.; additions to 13 Raleigh Place, for Messrs. Alaverson; and additions to 5 Bar Terrace, for Mr. J. C. Badger.

in connection with the Glasgow-Edinburgh road scheme.—A committee has been appointed to consider as to the construction of a bridge over the railway at Southbrae Drive.—Consideration is being given to a proposed new road across Moray Park.—A new tramway depot at Baillieston is under consideration.—A new entrance, with lodge, is proposed at Bellahouston Park at an estimated cost of £2,050.—The Corporation are proceeding with housing schemes at Tollcross and Langlands.—Negotiations are proceeding for a site at Higginbotham's Mill on which it will be possible to erect 180 houses in three-storey tenements.—It is proposed to purchase for £1,000 some 96 acres at Giffnock for housing purposes.—Messrs. Fyfe, Stone, Ltd., have offered to supply the necessary stone blocks, faced with granite chips, for two blocks of houses to be erected at Knightswood, and the Housing Committee recommend that this material be tested by the erection of the two blocks suggested.—Acceptance is recommended of the tenders of Messrs. J. & D. Provan, Barrhead, for two greens at Mossbank, £1,158 6s. 10d.; for two greens at Riddrie, £1,100 5s. 5d.; and for one green at Drumoyne, £570 11s.; estimates for six tennis courts at Mossbank, prepared by the Director of Parks, to be formed by him, £1,800; and estimates for relative club houses, prepared by the Director of Housing, £950 each.—The Corporation proposes a scheme for refuse destruction, and salvage, at a cost of about £350,000.



ARCHITECT
F. J. WILLS

LYONS' CORNER HOUSE
COVENTRY STREET LONDON

THE structural steel framing in Lyons' Corner House weighs 2,400 tons. The steel was rolled in Dorman Long's steelworks on Teeside, then fabricated at their constructional shops at Nine Elms, Battersea—which are large and thoroughly equipped—delivered to the job as required, and erected complete. Other recent London contracts, similarly handled, include Bush House, Adelaide House, Liberty's, Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society (Southampton Row), and two fine buildings in the Strand.

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*British Empire Exhibition . . . Palace of Engineering
Avenues 5 & 6, Stand 43 (designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens)*

GOSPORT.—At the Town Council £600 was voted for decoration, by direct labour, of the houses on the Forton site. The Council have passed plans for 50 new houses on the site. Plans passed: Six houses, Harding Road, for Mr. W. Hatfield; two houses, Fareham Road, for Mr. J. Filleul; house, Spring Garden Lane, for Mr. G. H. Keech; house, Gordon Road, for Messrs. A. White & Son; five houses, Ellachie Road, for Mr. J. Vaux. A scheme is to be prepared for the clearance of courts and alleys in the Town Ward. A site at Brockhurst is to be acquired for a new elementary school. It is proposed to adapt the Mill Pond Field as a recreation Ground.

GRAVESEND.—The Town Council are seeking sanction to borrow £50,000 for the erection of 100 houses and £5,000 for roads on the King's Farm Estate. Plans have been passed of a pavilion on the Harmsworth Sports Ground. The tender of Messrs. Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, £120, is recommended for iron fencing. —Slipper baths are to be erected on a site in Gordon Recreation Ground.—The Council are being urged to provide underground conveniences in different parts of the town.

HANWELL.—The U.D.C. are negotiating with the Great Western Land Co., Ltd., regarding land for recreation purposes. —The Red Lion public-house in Boston Road is to be rebuilt, and efforts are being made to effect a slight road improvement on the site.—The Surveyor has prepared plans for flats at Boston Road and Station Road and is negotiating for land by the Hopefield Estate for an additional housing scheme.—The Health Ministry has suggested concrete instead of bricks for the erection of a public convenience at Churchfields and alternative tenders are to be invited, though the Surveyor reports that concrete will not be cheaper.—Plan passed: house, Highland Avenue, for the Great Western Land Co., Ltd.

LOWESTOFT.—The Corporation are proposing the provision of a recreation ground on the Denes. Plans sanctioned:—Rev. Mother Provincial, additions to Convent, Kirkley Cliff; Messrs. Stewart & Patteson, for new public house, Stamford Street; Sisters of St. Peter's Home, London, Private Oratory, Gunton Cliff (amended plan); Lowestoft Water and Gas Co., for additions and alterations to premises, London Road North; Messrs. Lintott & Hillyard, for cold store, London Road South; Mr. P. C. Utting, for bungalow, Yarmouth Road, Oulton Broad; Mr. S. Leighton, for cottage, Yarmouth Road, Oulton Broad; Mr. B. S. Ward, for verandah, Hotel Victoria, Kirkley Cliff; Mr. H. C. Adams, for warehouse, 186 London Road South; Messrs. Knight & Weaving, for two houses, Warren Road. The Corporation are discussing with the Minister of Transport a scheme to widen Beccles Road at a cost of £15,775. A sub-committee has been appointed to confer with representatives of authorities in Norfolk and other persons who would be directly interested in the construction of the proposed road from Carlton Colville to Burgh St. Peter. The object of the Conference is to obtain support for the scheme for the construction of such road. The Surveyor has prepared plans for a sea-wall extension at an estimated cost of £43,000.

PAIGNTON.—The U.D.C. have received notes from the Surveyor to communicate with local architects, drawing attention to Section 53 of the Paignton Improvement Act, 1898 (Crossing for Horses or Vehicles over Footpaths) and to intimate that plans of proposed communications across footpaths should be submitted to the Council at the same time as plans for the building to which communication across footpaths is desired.—The Minister of Health has refused to sanction a loan of £1,230 for a public slaughter-house because it is too far away and is not sufficiently large for the needs of the town. The Council have decided to ask the fees of local architects for preparing a new scheme on a new site at Holloway's Hill. The Council are considering the purchase of land for a sports ground. Plans passed:—House, Southfield Avenue, for Mr. W. E. Andrew; extension of Colin Road and sewer, for the Paignton and District Land Development Co., Ltd.; three bungalows, Morin Road, for Messrs. Powell & Hawkins; two flats, Higher Polsham Road, for Messrs. Willcocks & Barnes; new road, Osney Crescent, for Mr. H. Whitley; house, Orient Road, for Mr. J. R. Gates.

PENZANCE.—The Town Council have asked the town clerk to report as to the adoption of a town planning scheme for the borough. The Council are considering the provision of additional accommodation at the docks and inviting the assistance of the Trade Facilities Development Commissioners. The West of England Knitting Co. have offered £1,500 for the island site for the erection of a factory, but the Town Council are not disposed to accept this figure.

SEDGLEY.—A memorial hall is to be erected in Temple Street for the Trustees of St. James's Church, and plans have been passed by the U.D.C. Plans also passed: House in Lightwood Road for Mr. E. G. Helliwell, and house in Sandyfields Road, for Mr. W. Tomlinson.

SHEFFIELD.—The Corporation Estates Committee have accepted the tender of Messrs. Melling Bros., Ltd., to erect 202 houses on the Manor Estate for the sum of £75,625, in accordance with drawings, specifications, etc., prepared by the City Architect. The Council have approved plans by the City Architect for a new lodge, registrar's office, waiting room, and conveniences at Abbey Lane Cemetery at an estimated cost of £3,000. The Markets Committee are considering proposals for extending and developing the markets. Electricity mains are to be extended at a cost of £8,792. A loan of £25,000 is being sought in respect of sub-station buildings and equipment. The tender of Messrs. Abbott and Bannister, Ltd., £1,543, is recommended for reinstatement of damage by fire at Birley Council school. Plans approved: 1 house, Stubbin Lane, Handsworth, for Mr. A. J. Hall; 1 house, Stubbin Lane, Handsworth, for Mr. W. B. Matthews; 1 bungalow off Richmond Road, for Mr. E. Mitchell; 1 bungalow, Selborne Road, for Mr. P. Parry; 1 bungalow, Brincliffe Edge Road, for Mrs. Annie Stowe; 1 bungalow, Talmont Road, for Mr. Thos. Robertson; 2 houses, Stubbin Lane, Handsworth, for Messrs. W. and E. Sadler; 2 houses, Hessle Road, for Mr. B. F. Glossop; 2 bungalows, Derbyshire Lane, for Mr. H. J. Taylor; 4 houses, Smithywood Road, for Mr. Edwin Cooper; 2 houses, Cairns Road, for Mr. J. E. Nadin; 2 houses, Sandford Grove Road, for Mrs. L. M. Wyatt and Mrs. Florence Newton; 4 houses, Montgomery Road, for Mr. W. Ramsay; 1 bungalow, Dalewood Avenue, for Mr. J. V. Auckland; 6 houses, Louth Road, for Mr. Riley Watson; 8 houses, Trap Lane, for Mr. Walter Green; 4 houses, Fitzgerald Road, for Tramways Committee, Sheffield Corporation; 6 houses, Mildon Road, for Mr. J. H. Reed; 1 house and garage, Canterbury Avenue, for Mr. J. W. Sivil; 1 house, Dalewood Road, for Mr. Ernest Collins; 1 house, Dalewood Road, for Mr. G. T. Bromehead; 1 house, Linaker Road, for Miss Judge; 8 houses and garages, Chesterfield Road, for Mr. M. J. Gleeson; 1 house, garage and workshop, Richmond Road, for Mr. S. Sanderson; 1 house, Vainor Road, for Mr. G. Hardwick; 1 house, Ringinglow Road, for Mr. F. Neal; 1 house and office, Greystones Road, for Mr. Riley Watson; 1 house and garage, Stumperlowe Crescent, for Mr. W. Melling; 1 house and garage, Rundle Road, for Mr. J. M. Jenkinson; 1 house and garage, Earl Marshal Road, for Mr. Samuel Smith; 2 houses, Severn and Beaufort Roads, for Mr. T. Bowker; 4 houses, Overton Road, for Mr. W. J. Patchett; 4 houses, Muskoka Drive, for Mr. G. M. Taylor; 1 bungalow, Muskoka Avenue and Muskoka Drive, for Mr. G. M. Taylor.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—The Corporation are considering a scheme proposed by Mr. Sidney Morse for a tube railway between North and South Shields.

TYNEMOUTH.—The Corporation have been informed that the Board of Education has sanctioned the purchase of land adjacent to the King Edward School at a cost of £8,680. The Government are being approached in connection with a scheme for extensions at Fish Quay. The Water Engineer reports that an expenditure of £4,000 or £5,000 is necessary for the protection of the roof and girders at the Moor Houses reservoir. Plans passed:—Two houses, Kerners Green, for Messrs. Newbold & Co.; four houses, Stanwick Street, for Messrs. B. Peel & Co.; and four houses, Campbell Estate, for Messrs. Hodgson & Swan.

WEST BRIDGFORD.—The U.D.C. have passed the following plans: Transformer house, Loughborough Road, for the Nottingham Corporation Electricity Department; 24 houses, Willoughby Road, for Messrs. Forman and Linacre; 4 houses, Willoughby Road, for Mr. F. Haskard; house, Valley Road, for Mr. J. Wood; house, Adbolton Grove, for Mr. J. Sands; house, Stamford Road, for Mr. H. H. Atkin; house, Wilford Lane, for Mr. W. P. Buckland; house, Melton Road, for Mr. H. Cox; house, Radcliffe Road, for Mr. F. G. Beeson. A children's corner to be constructed in the recreation ground at a cost of £343.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Corporation have been recommended to pass plans as follows:—F. W. Holland, two houses, McBean Road; H. Patton, two houses, Compton Road; T. Mackie & Son, two houses, Richmond Avenue; M. K. Wells, house, Bruford Road; G. J. Peck, house, Claremont Road; W. Withers, 24 houses, Fowler Street, etc.; W. Rowley, house, Goldthorn Hill Road; R. & G. Knowles, Ltd., joinery works, Hickman Avenue; M. Burton, Ltd., new shop premises, Dudley Street; W. Nicholls, shop, Dunstall Road, A. J. Stevens & Co., (1914), Ltd., additions to works, Lower Walsall Street. The Education Committee is to erect two caretakers' houses at Graisleys School and Gardeners' House at a cost of £1,350.

WOODFORD.—A town planning scheme is recommended for part of the district. The U.D.C. has passed plans for four houses in King's Avenue.

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THE BASILICA. MAXWELL AYRTON, Architect (MESSRS. SIMPSON & AYRTON).

The Lock-out.

We are not sorry that the employers have determined to lock out the operatives in the building trades from July 5, but we are sorry that it has been considered necessary to do so.

That it is necessary we are convinced, but it is always regrettable that an act of war should be the only way to peace.

It is impossible for the employers to give their fullest service to the public if they cannot have reasonable assurance that the operatives' unions and the operatives themselves will adhere to agreements made with the employers' associations.

The present trouble has been accentuated by what has occurred at Liverpool, where the local bodies of employers and operatives had arranged a higher scale of pay than elsewhere, and where the operatives will

not consent to gradual reductions to bring wages in line with those paid elsewhere; but this is only one element in a situation of general unrest, as there have been clear indications that the operatives elsewhere are disinclined to honour terms agreed to by their associations.

The situation bears some resemblance to that which caused the recent troubles on the Tube railways, and seems due to the disinclination of a disaffected minority to the whole principle of collective bargaining and a contempt for the sanctity of contracts.

If such a movement is not decisively checked, the difficulties of carrying on building will be enormous, for, briefly stated, the case of a section of the workers is that they will take all they can obtain by the action of their unions and then proceed to squeeze further



"LILITH." ALFRED DRURY, R.A., Sculptor.

concessions wherever possible by local action. On the other side, they know that the employers' associations would take instant action against any of their members who contravened terms agreed nationally. So that under such an arrangement dissatisfied operatives are playing at the game of "heads I win, tails you lose."

For the public such a condition of things must inevitably mean higher prices for building than would otherwise have to be met, and a disinclination in some directions on the part of contractors to carry out work under the contract system. In a word, just as the recent action taken by Tube men was first and foremost an attack on the public, this is another and quite as serious a one, though it may not attract public attention in the same prominent manner. Here and there individuals may complain of the difficulties they meet with in building, but until any man's personal interests are directly threatened he is apt to overlook what may be a most serious danger to the community of which he forms a part.

We believe that architects as a whole, knowing and sympathising with the difficulties with which contractors have to deal, will be almost solid in the sympathy and support they give to them in their difficulties.

It is no doubt extremely vexatious to see buildings the completion of which is urgently needed stopped,

but we hope that they will not for that reason try to find means of carrying on individual buildings, for by so doing they will only help to prolong a struggle which can only have one result. The claims of the employers are so reasonable that they must in the end prevail, and we should eliminate the consideration of our clients' and our own personal inconvenience in order to obtain as decisive a result as is possible in the shortest period of time.

The question, unlike the complicated issues of wages which sometimes arise, is not one that can be usefully settled by arbitration or by the intervention of some Government Department, but is a clear-cut principle fundamental to civilised life here and elsewhere, and which must be upheld if civilisation is to continue. If, as is likely, the State, acting through its legislature, can do nothing to make sporadic striking illegal and subject to heavy penalties, then its clear duty is to stand on one side, leaving it to the employers to fight a battle for the interests of the whole community. We may see an attempt made on behalf of the operatives to represent this lock-out as action taken to make housing more difficult, and even propositions advanced to draft the men locked out into housing work on the plea of its urgency. If such an attempt is made, we must the more vigorously support the builders in their determination to resist tendencies which will ultimately,

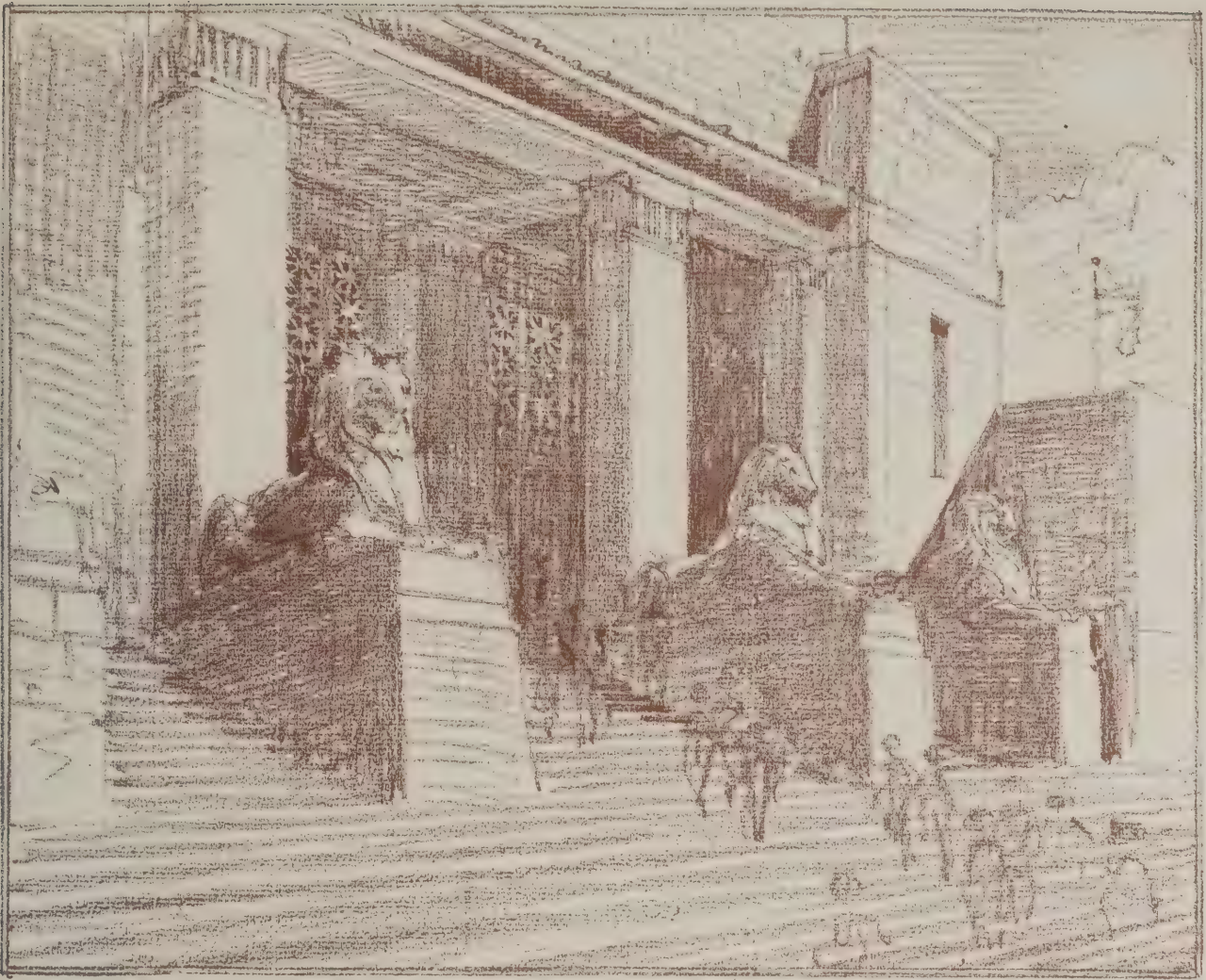
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"INK-PHOTO" WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3.

ALTAR IN THE BASILICA AT WEMBLEY.

DESIGNED BY W. H. BLACKING, M.S.A.



BRITISH GOVERNMENT PAVILION. WEMBLEY.



OLD LONDON BRIDGE, WEMBLEY.

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THE INDIAN PAVILION.

JUNE 27th, 1924.



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THE LAKE, WEMBLEY.

P. D. HEPWORTH, ARCHITECT.

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ORIGINAL MASONRY, GUILDHALL, LONDON.

EXPOSED DURING EXCAVATIONS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MR. SYDNEY PERKS, F.R.I.B.A., CITY SURVEYOR.



INK PHOTO: WM BROWN & CO. LTD. LONDON, E.C.3

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if not checked, do harm out of all proportion to that caused by a stoppage of work which is unlikely to prove of long duration.

It is by no means certain that the quick settlement of the recent Tube troubles was altogether good in the interests of the community, which might have been better served had the strikers' places been filled and men taught by a drastic means that they could not promote public disorder at the cost of a few days' stoppage of pay.

The builders are fortunately masters of the position,

which is one which can be clearly understood by the average man; and unless there are many blacklegs in their ranks, which we do not think to be the case, this stoppage of work may prove the best thing for the industry which has happened for many years.

Reasonable difficulties can usually be met by negotiation and concessions on both sides, but such a dispute as this must not only be fought, but fought once for all to a settlement, unless we want the establishment of Soviet rule in our midst.

Our Illustrations.

THE INDIAN PAVILION FROM THE LAKE, WEMBLEY.

ALTAR IN THE BASILICA, WEMBLEY.

SKETCHES FROM WEMBLEY.

GUILDHALL ORIGINAL MASONRY.

Notes and Comments.

Thicker Bricks.

Mr. Sunlight has introduced a Bill into Parliament to fix the thickness of the brick, which is now $2\frac{3}{4}$ in., at $3\frac{1}{2}$ in., in order to save money in housing schemes. This measure was passed by a majority of one on the first reading, but we hardly believe it will survive the ordeal of the second or arrive at the Committee stage. If we want to save money in handling, it seems more reasonable to employ some system of concrete block at once. Concrete and block systems have hardly yet had a fair trial; and between the disinclination of architects to adopt systems and the unwillingness of workers to use them, and the doubt often felt about the system to be employed, concrete has not yet quite come to its own. Much as we all like good brickwork of the customary South of England thickness, we should prefer concrete as a building material to the use of thicker bricks. More than this, Mr. Sunlight has to bear in mind that the size of bricks has a very definite connection with the question of handling, and it is doubtful whether the use of thicker bricks would save as much labour as Mr. Sunlight imagines.

Bricklayers and the Housing Scheme.

The executive of the Bricklayers' Union have refused to sign the Government housing proposal under which they were to agree on certain conditions to dilution. The Secretary of the Union had agreed officially to the scheme, but their executive feel in consequence of the demand for bricklayers, and the fact that they are few in number, that the craft occupies a very strong position. We agree that if we are to believe that unskilled labour cannot be trained to lay bricks in a simple job the union are in a very strong position; but if, on the other hand, untrained men were taught, the Bricklayers' Union would in a short time be in a precarious position. The last ultimatum rests—not with the unions—but with those who are willing to employ and pay for labour, and it would be well that the unions should have an opportunity of learning this lesson.

Freehold Flats.

Mr. Ernest Yates has again been advancing his scheme of freehold flats, an idea borrowed from America, which has not up till now met with much support in this country. The freehold of the flat would be bought, doing away with premiums and giving considerable relief to owners in the matter of rates. Prospective owners would then pay a small annual sum, which would go towards the provision of services common to all occupiers. The weak point of the scheme is, of course, that the owner of a flat is more likely to be annoyed by his neighbours than the owner of a house is. If the owners of any block of flats were a community of people with like ideas and tastes the system might work very well, but the average

man would not in many cases feel sufficiently certain of this to care to purchase a flat which he would prefer to acquire on a long or short tenancy.

The Brighton Aquarium.

The General Purposes Committee of the Brighton Corporation have approved of the scheme for rebuilding the famous Aquarium at an estimated cost of £120,000. There will be a sunken bandstand surrounded by terraced seats to accommodate 800 people, with additional room in a covered colonnade. A fountain court and an entertainment hall to seat 1,500 are parts of the new scheme, which will include refreshment rooms and a number of shops. Brighton Aquarium is, of course, a monument of the Regency in a mood of frolic, and is familiar to many who have only an indistinct memory of greater architectural works, but few regrets will be felt that its demolition is to make room for a newer and more ordered example of architectural work. Our seaside resorts, more than almost any other of our towns, need a liberal infusion of modern architectural skill. The older parts of Weymouth are a good example of what they might be made, but as a rule they form backwaters of tasteless Victorian design not too soundly or well carried out.

A New Method of House Building.

Mr. Brownlow, of Messrs. Stock & Brownlow, Tonbridge, has invented a method of laying bricks which can be carried out by unskilled men, by which six to ten bricks can be laid a minute, or 3,000 in the ordinary working day. The system is standardised. When the site of a house has been arranged, uprights of angle irons are fixed on the ground level at the four corners and upright T pieces are fixed between these at intervals of 10 feet or shorter distances as required. These form the building line of the house. Boards are placed inside these supports, forming a straight building line, against which the bricks are laid. When three courses are laid, another board is slipped in and the process is continued. Alternatively, one board only can be used and raised every three courses, resting it on two nails driven into the joints. This sounds like a feasible method of reducing the cost of simple house building, as it means anything from six to eight times the number of bricks laid per diem. We should be glad if the inventors of this method would send us full particulars and photographs showing the method being applied.

Regent Street Development.

The completion of the rebuilding of Messrs. Peter Robinson's main premises in Oxford Street led to the vacation by them of the shops, 252-262 Regent Street, with a frontage of 100 feet to this thoroughfare, a return

frontage of 150 feet to Argyll Street, and a further 40 feet in Little Argyll Street. This important site has been leased to a client of Messrs. White, Druce and Brown. The site has an area of 15,590 square feet and is in the same block as the Bakerloo Tube station. Practically the whole of the Crown lands in Regent Street has now been relet on 80 years' building leases, and the last buildings will be completed very shortly. The site now leased is to be developed immediately by the erection of one of the most important buildings in the street, the most interesting feature of which will be an arcade, to be known as the "Regent Arcade." This arcade will lead directly from Regent Street to the Tube stations and Oxford Street, forming a short cut and providing moderate-sized shops at comparatively low rentals for those traders who wish to be in the Regent Street area but find it impossible to meet the high rentals commanded by shops in that thoroughfare. There will, in addition to the arcade, be two shops, each with a frontage of nearly 30 feet to Regent Street, which will run right through to Argyll Street, with a depth of about 140 feet. The upper part will comprise six floors with entrances from Regent Street, Argyll Street and the main entrance on the corner of Little Argyll Street and Argyll Street. The whole carpet area will be about 100,000 square feet. Mr. S. Gordon-Jeeves, F.S.A., has been appointed architect.

We suppose with the completion of new Regent Street the discussion over its æsthetic merits and defects will gradually cease and attention will be directed to the subject of other public improvements, since nothing more can be done until a term of 80 years has once more expired.

The British Empire Gas Exhibit.

The organisers of the British Empire Gas Exhibit, which is attracting much deserved attention from visitors at Wembley, invited a number of architects and press representatives to luncheon in the Lucullus Restaurant and to a reception afterwards. The chair was taken by Mr. F. W. Goodenough, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition, and both he and Sir John Simpson made excellent speeches. Mr. Goodenough referred to the excellent relations which had always existed between the gas employers and workmen, which it is well known form an excellent object lesson to other trades.

Nothing could be more excellent and useful than the manner in which gas appliances for cooking, lighting and heating are shown. "The Seven Ages of Women" show how gas can be best employed in the services of people ranging from the nursery to old age. The Rest Lounge contains a model Harley Street Room, and next to this is a model Business Man's Room and again a model Boudoir.

The architect employed was Mr. Austen Hall, whose design of the various rooms and exhibits is very successful and it can no longer be said, as it was, that the Gas Industry was insensible to the claims of design, for most of the newer fittings shown are just what architects want.

Waterloo Bridge.

There appear to be three different contentions on the subject of Waterloo Bridge. The first is that of those who claim that its rebuilding is unnecessary and that all that is required is the rebuilding of the foundations of the piers which have given way. The second is that of the London County Council experts who claim that complete rebuilding is necessary, but that being so it is reasonable in view of traffic requirements to widen the bridge, maintaining the original design. The third is that of the Labour Amendment to be brought before the London County Council, claiming that a bridge with wider arches is required because of the altered conditions of river traffic and in view of that fact that an entirely new design should be adopted. Of these three contentions it seems to us the second will probably commend itself to most people unless it can be proved that the expert advice on which the case is supported is founded on an error, which would appear to be unlikely.

The Building Operatives' Contention.

The President of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives declares that the agreement to govern wages and conditions nationally was signed by both employers and operatives on June 16 to come into operation from that date. Provision was made in that agreement for the Liverpool difficulty. The negotiating Committee of the employers required to be satisfied that the Unions had done all that was possible to remove difficulties. They claim that as both parties had full power to conclude and sign the National Agreement there was no necessity to refer it to another and a larger body of employers who have now turned it down. They hold this to be a breach of the agreement made and state that if the threat of a lock-out is held over them the men may declare a strike at an earlier date than that of the lock-out. The operatives are encouraged in their action by the knowledge that there are many employers who are unaffiliated with the employers' organisations, and who will, they think, refuse to follow their lead.

West Park Mental Hospital.

The Minister of Health formally opened the eleventh Mental Hospital at West Park, Epsom, on Friday last. The weather was delightful and visitors could not fail to be favourably impressed by both the planning and layout of the many buildings. It struck us that those responsible for these things must have given a great deal of time to the careful consideration and study of this many-sided subject. Those who reflect will easily realise that the designers and all concerned have been animated by very kindly thoughts towards not only the future inmates of this hospital but also towards the feelings of the relatives of these unfortunate people. The idea of incorporating a reception hospital and convalescent homes with the main institution seemed to us absolutely splendid. Here all the patients are first received, and should there be a reasonable hope for their recovery they are retained in this hospital and passed into the homes, and finally out again amongst their fellow men and women. They will thus not have been "put away" but will only have been in a hospital or convalescent home.

The institution itself is provided with a recreation hall, and from the illustrations we published last week it should be obvious to a great many that the inmates of these institutions are by no means all of them devoid of useful work and thought.

We were informed some time ago that each hospital erected by the L.C.C. could show a decided improvement on its predecessor. And we hope that the architect, Mr. Wm. Charles Clifford Smith, will be consulted should the authorities be erecting further institutions of this kind. The wards are all wonderfully well lighted and ventilated, and the door furniture has received very careful consideration, having regard to the purposes of the buildings and the mental condition of some of the inmates. The padded rooms were not nearly so dreadful, in reality, as our imaginations might picture, and every care has been taken to make their design as perfect as possible. We were specially impressed with the kitchen arrangements, and the heating and ventilation plant left nothing to be desired.

Correspondence

Lead Paints (Protection Against Poisoning) Bill.

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECT.

DEAR SIR,—You may have observed that this Bill came on for Second Reading in the House of Commons on Friday last, June 20. Strenuous opposition from both the Liberal and Conservative side was offered to the part of the Bill which proposes Prohibition (i.e., the prohibition of the use of white lead for interior painting), while there was general acceptance of the part which provides for Regulations, and particularly regulations to prohibit the dry rubbing down of paint. The Under-Secretary for Home Affairs sought to represent that there would be a breach of honour and a betrayal if the House did not rectify the Geneva Convention, but the Home Secretary had to disavow this as merely a flight of Welsh eloquence.

It was obvious that if it were pressed to a division the Bill was likely to be defeated, and so not only the opposed Prohibition part, but also the generally accepted Regulation part, would have been killed. The Home Secretary, therefore, gave an undertaking that if the Second Reading were allowed, and the Prohibition part were knocked out in Committee, he would not withdraw the Bill, but allow it to become one for Regulations only; and this was agreed without a division.

Yours faithfully,

June 25, 1924.

WHITE & LEONARD.

The Guildhall, London.—II.

Lecture given before the Sheffield Society of Architects and Surveyors at the Sheffield University on February 21, 1924, by Mr. Sydney Perks.



THE GUILDHALL BEFORE RESTORATION.

In 1838 there was evidently a Gothic revival, for Wren's work was swept away, and William Montague, the City Surveyor, or "Clerk to the City's Works," prepared an excellent "design for finishing the east end of Guildhall." I have the drawing in my office. The design was prepared to include three figures from the exterior of the Guildhall Chapel, which are now in the Guildhall Museum. It is rather difficult to tell if the niches were altered by Montague; on the drawing, the entire canopy is coloured with a different tint from the portion below; the colours are, however, very faint, but in consequence of the State lottery views and the excellence of the work, which is very similar to portions of the crypt entrance, I have no doubt that the canopy is original. I have in my office a report dated 1859 which confirms this view. It is beautiful work.

Now we come to what we see to-day. The east end and two return sides on the hustings are panelled in oak. This panelling was copied from a screen in Newark Church and I think it was a great mistake to destroy Montague's design in stone and erect a copy of work which, although excellent, was erected under entirely different conditions. Again, the proportions of the panels, etc., have been altered to

make it fit in, and the effect is much inferior to the original screen at Newark.

It will be seen that the woodwork has a heavy projecting canopy, and this is immediately under the stone canopy. The result is that not only does the wood canopy prevent anyone near the east end from seeing the stonework above, but we get two heavy horizontal lines immediately under the window, which have the unpleasant effect of dwarfing the end of the hall. It is apparent to the most casual observer that the woodwork forms no part of the original design, for we see one canopy immediately under another, a senseless arrangement very detrimental to the dignity of the hall. Personally, I should very much like to see a return to the arrangement of hanging tapestry round the east end and return ends as far as the steps of the hustings. I think the woodwork should all be removed and the arras hung, as no doubt it was in the fifteenth century. At present the space at the back of the panelling is a receptacle for an enormous amount of dirt and dust, which cannot be cleared away without taking down the screen. Last autumn I had a small portion of the panelling removed and some hanging submitted to members of the City Lands

Committee, and the result was favourably received. As there was so much work in hand, the matter was not pressed, even by members most in favour of a return to the old state of things, but the subject is well worth careful consideration and, no doubt, will be brought up again.

In the old views of the Guildhall, the banners hanging from the walls were taken at the battle of Ramillies in 1706. There were 63 colours, and upon application by the Lord Mayor in November, 1706, the Queen "was graciously pleased to Declare she would Bestow" them "to be Hung up in the Guildhall of this City," and the Duke of Marlborough was invited to dinner. The date was arranged, invitations issued, and the dinner took place within a week. I have been unable to find the date of the removal of these banners, and all traces of them have, unfortunately, been lost. Although they were brought to the hall with much pomp and circumstance, they have vanished—nobody knows when or where.

You are, no doubt, aware that the work of restoring the porch to the Guildhall is now well in hand. The original porch, known as "The Guildhall Gate," was erected in 1425, and was very different from what we understand as an ordinary porch, for it was the full width of the Guildhall yard, about 63 feet wide; it had two doorways in it, and was in part certainly three storeys high. The upper portion of the porch suffered considerably at the Great Fire of London, and was restored by Wren in 1669. He rebuilt the destroyed portions in a severely classical manner, the central feature reminding one somewhat of Temple Bar. Below Wren's work there were six of the original statues erected in the fifteenth century; these were only removed when Dance's front was erected in 1789, and they are traceable down to 1846, when they were sold for £100 to a Mr. Henry Bankes, M.P., for Corfe Castle. I have tried to ascertain if they are still in existence, but up to the present I have failed to get any information. These statues are often confused with those from the Guildhall Chapel, which are exhibited in the Guildhall Museum.

The small doorway gave access to steps that must have led down to the crypt entrance, which was about 7 feet 10½ inches below the level of the Guildhall yard at that date. I had an opening made to examine the foundations before commencing the present restoration, and was delighted to find one stone of the jamb of this original smaller entrance; this is about 2 feet 3 inches by 1 foot 8 inches by 12 inches, and is deposited in the crypt and labelled.

The original porch, with Wren's alterations, was pulled down in 1788, a fact which is ever to be regretted. Dance's porch was very nearly treated in the same way and a modern porch erected by Sir Horace Jones; but let us be thankful that did not happen; he pulled a third of it down and died.

I think it should be recorded that Dance first attempted to restore the Guildhall front, only rebuilding a portion, and a contract was entered into for the work. I have the drawing in my office, but it was found that the fifteenth century work was in so bad a condition that the City Lands Committee reported to the Court of Common Council on June 4, 1788, that "the stone being found in a much worse condition than was expected, and it appearing to us that the whole South front of Guildhall ought to be rebuilt at the same time, we directed Mr. Dance to prepare a design for a new front with suitable decorations." The first contract was £1,900, and an additional sum of £1,800 was reported to be necessary.

For a moment let us consider Dance's work. In the first place, we must remember he was a very good architect; he was one of the first Royal Academicians, and Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy; he was the architect for Newgate, a grandly designed prison, which, unfortunately, had to be pulled down a few years ago, as it was not suitable for modern requirements. Dance was trained on classical lines and had studied in Italy; it is quite clear to anyone that he had no knowledge of Gothic architecture, and he attempted to build a Gothic porch. The result is of the greatest interest to students. In the first place, I know of no other attempt on his part to carry out Gothic work.

What did he do? To begin with, he was careful that his building should be similar to the old porch as far as the line and extent of frontage were concerned. Next he divided his building into three parts, the centre portion being higher than the two sides. This, again, as far as we can tell, was following the lines of the old building. His design was well balanced and quaint in the extreme; it has an Eastern influence in it, and as we see it to-day it is a beautiful piece of colour. Horace Jones wanted to pull it down, and so did a few men recently, when the question of dealing with this part of the Guildhall was discussed. To me it seemed it ought not to be criticised solely from an æsthetic point of view; it is something more than a piece of architecture; it has the right to be considered as a landmark in the City; it has been reproduced on programmes, gold caskets, etc., which are to be found in all parts of the world; it seems, in a sense, to be a trade mark of the Corporation; and, good architecture or bad architecture, it seemed to me a pity that the Corporation had allowed one wing to be pulled down for the purpose of exposing quite a modern casing to an old building. The architectural Press carefully considered the matter. Mr. Thackeray Turner, the Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings; Mr. St. John Hope, Assistant Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries; and Mr. Ernest George, A.R.A., the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, wrote most valuable letters in favour of the restoration and against further mutilation. These letters were laid before the Court of Common Council, and, coming from such eminent men, they naturally had great influence upon the Court, which decided, in its wisdom, that Dance's work was not to be destroyed, but that the missing portion should be restored.

I now show a view of a doorway to the room over the porch. This is part of the original structure, the brickwork, etc., around it has just been cleared away and the big splay exposed; the corbelling out has also just come to light. I traced the splay through the stone casing of the exterior of the hall, and the history of this part of the building is now clear. Originally the stairs were in the thickness of the wall; over them there was a big relieving arch; the springer at the lower level is seen, this arch being carried right across the wall where the window now is. It is obvious there could have been no window there, such as we see to-day, and the line of the old wall is still distinctly seen at the top and at the bottom of the staircase, which was partly at the back of the fine entrance to the crypt. At a subsequent date the window was inserted and the wall thickened, but this meant infringing so much on the width of the stairs that they would become useless. Consequently, the outer wall or face of the crypt entrance was mutilated and partly removed, and the steps, as existing to-day, were forced more to the south. This window was seen from the Guildhall yard, and if Horace Jones had in view the exposure of the window when he pulled down Dance's work, it is clear that he was bringing to light something very modern. The casing and old face at the back are now exposed, and I hope always will be.

Almost the entire wall surface of the Guildhall was covered with a preparation of cement about one-sixteenth of an inch thick. This had been painted and distempered, with the result that the sharpness of the mouldings had disappeared, and it was very difficult to distinguish between the original Gothic and the imitation work which has been carried out from time to time. I will be quite candid and say that, although, as a casual observer, I used often to enter the Guildhall previous to my appointment, with the exception of the porch I never considered the building genuine; but as soon as I studied it I found out my mistake, and I had small portions carefully cleaned off right down to the stonework, and these were inspected by members of the Corporation. This plaster and paint work is said to have been started in Wren's time, the object being to paint the new stone used in restoration work after the Fire, and also the stone blackened by the flames, so that the whole should have what was considered a pleasing and uniform appearance. When I first brought this matter forward, I was asked if it was not a fact that portions of

the stonework were damaged and greatly discoloured by the flames, and my reply was that as the Corporation apparently owned the only building in existence bearing traces of the Great Fire of 1666, this was the very reason for showing the large number of visitors a sight unique in London. That view was adopted, and, as you are no doubt aware, the work was carried out. The result is very interesting. We can see clearly the line of the old walls raised up by Wren; we see the clean stone of the modern windows at a glance; the wheat is separated from the chaff; a stone building is on view in place of one of plaster and paint, so that he who runs may read. One point may be of interest: it was handed down by tradition that the Fire was most fierce along the eastern end of the southern wall; that tradition proved true, for that part of the old stone is blacker than any other portion of the Guildhall, and the contrast with the light grey of the west end of the north wall is very great. The crypt was in a still worse state, and it was fitted up with gas pendants, common T pieces hung from the vaulting; these have all been removed, the gas stoves are going, and the whole crypt has been lighted by electricity. I wanted to get a strong and well diffused light, but I did not want to use pendants; I particularly wanted the vaulting to appear as it was in the fifteenth century, and any line of pendants must

judges were hung, who settled disputes that arose in consequence of the destruction of property by the Great Fire. Their portraits were painted by Michael Wright; the price was settled by tender, £36 being paid for each of them; the table used by the judges is still to be seen in the Guildhall Museum. These side windows were opened up to 1864, and all of them have been renewed; the end windows have been hacked and cemented over outside and pieced inside; consequently, the only window now to be seen as it was when constructed in the fifteenth century is the newly discovered window, which I deal with later. Again, with the exception of a certain amount of stonework in the lower portions of the buttresses, and small portions of stonework in other parts, no portion of the exterior of the great hall dates from the fifteenth century, while most of it is quite modern.

Considerable interest was taken by the Press and by the public in the discovery of the one and only original and complete window in the great hall. It has been stated that the discovery was "accidental," as if a plumber wanted to fix a waste pipe, and cut into the walling and found some fifteenth century work, but there was nothing in the slightest degree accidental about it. The hall had just been cleaned, and it was possible to distinguish between old stone, new stone and cement with the greatest ease. The window in question is next to a bay, which has a blind arcade into which a bronze memorial has been fitted. The bay, at the back of which existed the window, presented an almost identical appearance; the centre portion was divided into three parts, but there was this difference, the mullions of the bay in front of the old window were of cement and those of the bay containing the statuary were of stone. At first I naturally thought that the stonework in one bay had been damaged by the Great Fire and made good in cement, the adjoining bay being taken as a model, but a close examination showed that the main moulding that runs around the opening has a perfectly smooth face at the points of junction with the tracery. Now, had the entire original tracery been stone, the moulding would, in all probability, have been rough and indented, showing fractures at those points. This was the first indication that there might have been no tracery when the building was erected. I followed up this idea by having a small hole 4 inches by 4 inches made at the side of the moulding; had the stone been embedded in the wall, and formed a portion of a continuing wall, it would probably have been somewhat rough, and certainly would have had the return face at right angles to the main face. Instead of that, it was smooth and splayed. This showed at once there was a recess of some sort in the original structure; the small opening was driven through until the jamb of the window appeared, then the whole of the brick and cement filling was removed, and the window appeared as you see it to-day. It seems that the window had twice been blocked out, for just inside it and, at the back of the recess, there had been fixed some wood framing; this had been lathed and plastered, and then at a subsequent date, in front of this lath and plaster work, the brick filling had been inserted so as to entirely block up the recess and make the face level with the wall adjoining. The recess opposite was treated in exactly the same way, but here the window was found much mutilated. I hope, however, it will be restored as soon as accommodation can be found for the occupants of the office at the back of it. After the discovery, I naturally referred to old plans and views. I find one window shown upon a plan prepared about 1750, but there is no trace of a record of the other window.

With regard to the south window, this has received further attention, and the brick wall on the outer side has been removed.

Without doubt this is an extremely interesting window. In the first place, we find the two window seats, one on each side of the opening. These are frequently seen in early domestic work, and fine examples exist at Stokesay and Alnwick, but no examples exist, as far as I know, in ecclesiastical work. The next thing to notice is the right-angled rebate formed for the shutters. A similar rebate exists in the windows in the crypt. At the lower portion

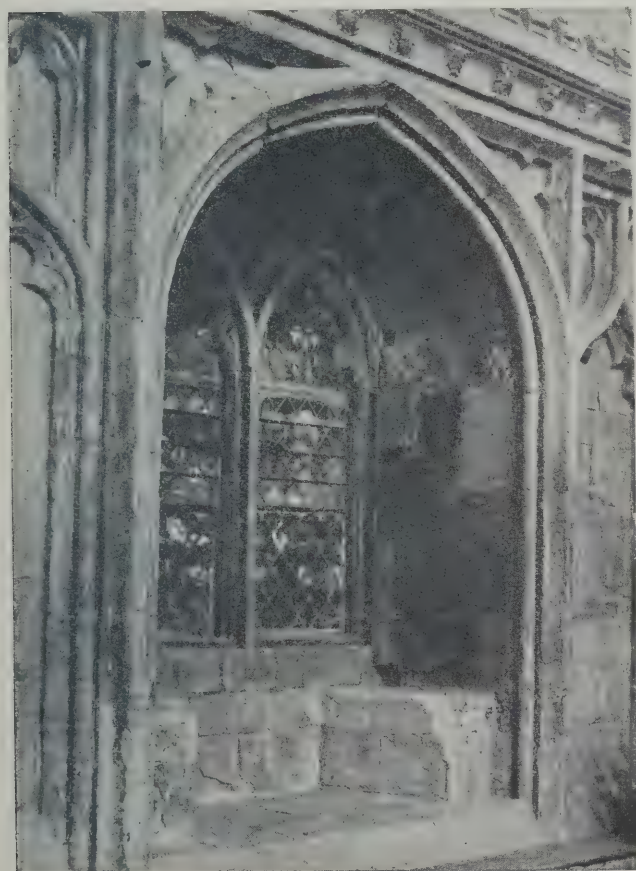


Photo: Sports & General Illustrated Co.

15TH CENTURY WORK AT THE GUILDHALL.

have formed a perspective to detract from the line of the main ribs of the groins. Consequently, I had some simple shaded lights made in the form of a scoop; one is fixed on the wall in each bay. There is ground glass below and looking-glass at the back; the light is directed upwards, and the crypt has the effect of being lighted by reflected rays, for there are no burners to catch the eye.

A report, made to the Guildhall Improvement Committee in 1864 (with reference to the side corridors below the circular leaded lights, which light the hall on both sides):—"The original windows still exist intact, by which light was obtained through the lateral walls of the hall, beneath the level of a continuous cornice covering a wall plate." These windows had been bricked up so as to provide convenient wall space upon which the portraits of twenty-two

of the window the old hooks can be seen on which the shutters were hung. There are no traces of any hooks to the upper part, so probably these lower shutters were about 2 feet 2 inches high; but apparently the upper part of each window had a movable shutter similar to those frequently fitted to shop windows; each of these rested on the hinged shutter below; the holes in the stone-work above were probably used for the insertion of a wood shutter bar. When we see stout stay-bars and stanchions for protection, the use of a shutter seems unnecessary, but we must also consider at the same time the glazing. In the western part of the crypt there are no signs of any glazing, and the shutters were necessary as protection in bad weather. But when we see, as in the great hall, a groove in the stone for glazing, stanchions and also shutter rebates, then it would seem that either originally there was no glazing and the shutters were necessary, and the glazing subsequently added, or else the shutters were used as we use blinds to-day.

Now with regard to the glazing, in 1422 the executors of the great Dick Whittington glazed some of the windows of the great hall, and also of the Mayor's Court. In 1643 certain aldermen were instructed to examine the windows and have them destroyed if they considered "the pictures and figures in the glass windows within the Guildhall and Chappell idolatrous." This they considered they were, and they were destroyed. It is obvious that the windows had to be reglazed, and apparently some of the glass now in the window is the glass that was then fixed. Only a portion of each light opened; this had an iron casement and frame, the remainder of the windows had the leadwork fixed into a groove in the stone work. The iron latches, although very rusty, are charming in design, and I believe they are the original fastenings that were fixed at the time the hall was first glazed. Each is fitted with a spring very similar to the thumb latch of a cottage door of to-day, and not much like a modern casement fastening.

Cut-Throat Alley.—There was formerly a footway from the Guildhall Yard to Basinghall Street. In the fifteenth century, the entrance was through the smaller gateway of the south front. Maitland states that there were steps up from the alley into Guildhall Yard. It is clear that must have been so when we compare the level of the crypt doorway with the yard; the old views of the front show one step up to the end of the porch, which is the same to-day as it was when first built, and the threshold of the crypt doorway also exists now, so we get a dimension of 8 feet 4½ inches from porch level to entrance of crypt; deduct 6 inches for the one step up to porch, and we get a dimension of 7 feet 10½ inches from the old Guildhall Yard to the cill or porch; there were consequently about 16 steps down. Cut-Throat Alley then skirted the south side of the main building at a level of 3 feet 11 inches below the glass line of the windows of the crypt; this ground line is still apparent, and is shown by the difference in the stonework of the buttresses and side walls; the stonework below the ground line was built in unshaped random courses, but above ground the masonry was built with more regularity. Cut-Throat Alley no doubt entered Basinghall Street through one of the footways shown on the old plans. As time went on it seems that light was not considered of so much importance in the crypt, and the steps were found inconvenient; the Guildhall Yard to-day is 5 feet above the level of the roadway in Basinghall Street; the descent of the steps was required to form a sinking in the ground, or continuous area to allow good light in the crypt. The necessity for ample light is also shown by the sloping of the soffits of the window recesses on the inner side of the wall of the crypt. It is clear that the descent of about 16 steps down from the Guildhall Yard necessitated a rise of about 3 feet, or 6 steps, to Basinghall Street. Traffic, of course, increased, and no doubt the importance of the crypt decreased, for we know that additional buildings were constructed. The result is what one might expect: the level of Cut-Throat Alley was raised and the sunk portion was filled in. On a plan in my office, made about 1750, there are only three

steps shown, and on Roques' map of 1737, there are four steps shown; consequently an area had to be formed around the east entrance to the crypt; this existed until about 1870, when the Library was erected, and is shown in photographs of that date. The grand entrance to the crypt on the south side fared much worse, as it was floored over, at about the level of the Guildhall Yard, and turned into a coal hole; later this coal hole became a lavatory, and the doorway was boarded over; consequently the entrance as now seen has been hidden since about the year 1750. As stated elsewhere, the floor line cut the doorway horizontally into two parts. But this is not the entire history of Cut-Throat Alley; in 1782 the Chapel was turned into the Court of Requests, and a plan dated 1819 in the Gardner collection shows an angle cut off to form a passage from the Guildhall Yard to Cut-Throat Alley. This enabled Dance to abolish the gateway formerly existing in the south front and to use the whole of the ground floor; he was able to get a good room on the right-hand side of the porch, which was subsequently used as the Irish Chamber.

When the present Library corridor was constructed, it became necessary to divert this public footway, and pedestrians were allowed to cross the great hall and pass through a door on the north side, and down steps, and so into Basinghall Street. This doorway was in the third bay from the east end. Subsequently the public was prevented from passing through the hall, and the way abandoned. The Library Corridor was paved with the stone taken from the south front, and fixed with the ornamental face downwards, the back of the stone being worked level for the paving.

I know you will be glad to hear that the members of the Corporation take the greatest interest in the building, and in the opening up of old portions. The Committee dealing with the structure is known as the City Lands Committee, and is the premier committee of the Corporation. Do not think past neglect implies future negligence. Every member of the Council is anxious to do the right thing, and no fitter motto could be quoted in conclusion, with reference to the restoration, than that of the Corporation: *Domine dirige nos.*

"The Architect" Fifty Years Ago.

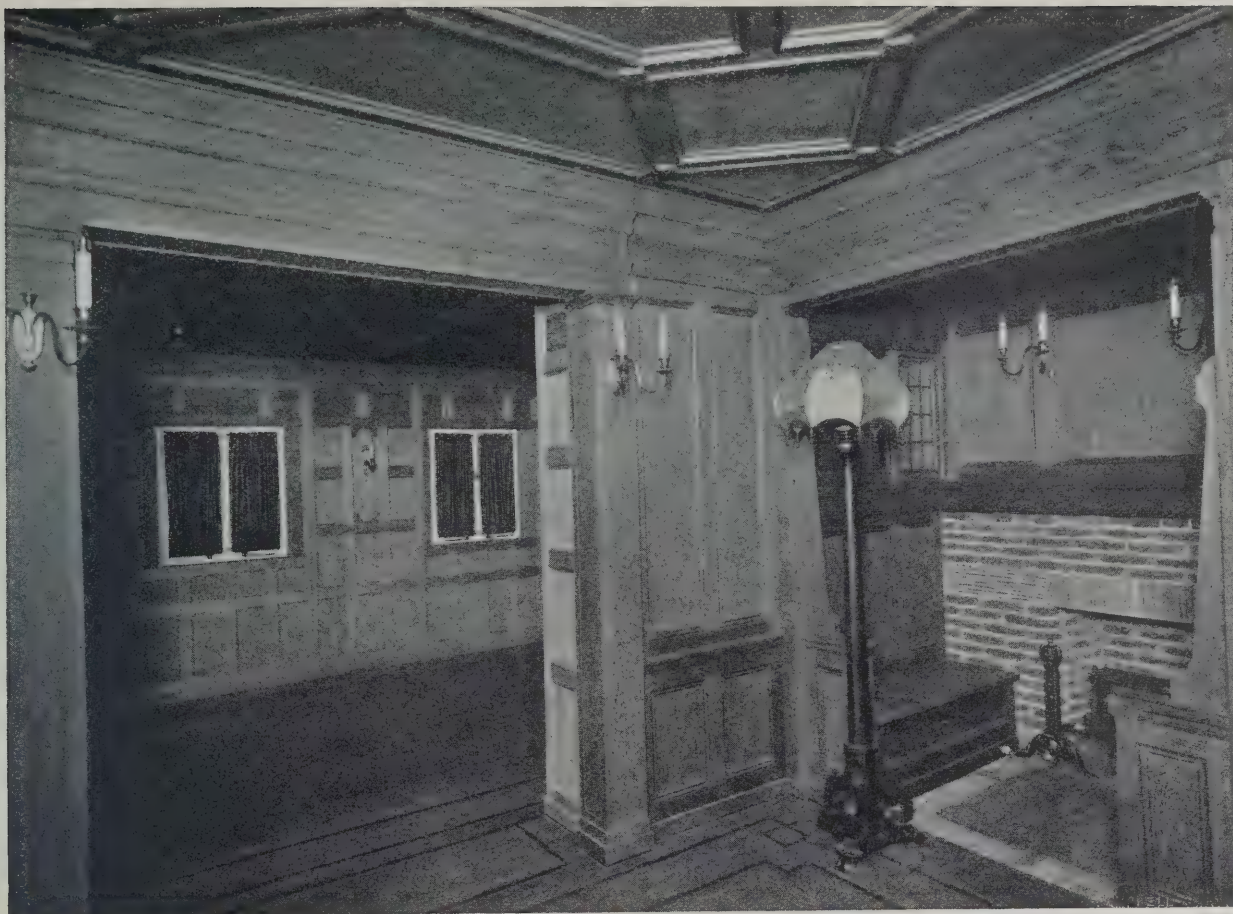
JUNE 27, 1874.

MANTEGNA'S CHAPEL AT MANTUA.

Amidst the wholesale and reckless destruction of works of art now going on in Italy under the pretence of restoration, it is gratifying to come across one performance of that kind in which, by the simple process of removing the accumulation of whitewash, the decoration of Mantegna's Chapel, in the basilica of St. Andrea at Mantua, is being revealed in almost its original purity. According to Mr. H. Wallis, the operation is being performed by Signor Bosio, and is effected by pressing wax against the whitewash, which is thus easily removed from the surface of the frescoes.

It is known that Mantegna, in his will, left a sum of 200 ducats for the decoration of this chapel. Monsignore Savoia, the *Paroco* of St. Andrea, informed Mr. Wallis that documents had been found showing that the designs for the decoration were made by Mantegna himself, though the frescoes were not finished till ten years after his death.

The scheme of decoration is as follows:—trellis work with flowers covers the dome, in the centre of which is the heraldic device of Mantegna; below are the four Evangelists, and in ovals three compositions, representing the Judgment of Solomon, the Beheading of John the Baptist, and the Angel appearing to Zachariah; beneath these are the six Cardinal Virtues; lower still, on a black ground, are naked children holding shields—waving ribbons float about them. All these works are executed in monochrome, with the exception of the children, which are the colour of life. The wall, for three or four feet at the bottom, is still coated with whitewash, and from the damp its removal is likely to be a matter of difficulty. The pictures, which used to be in the chapel, are now in the sacristy; they are black and grimy, from the smoke of candles and careless varnishing. The long picture representing the Virgin and Child, Elizabeth and John the Baptist, with Joseph and Zachariah, is a very noble design, in every way worthy of Mantegna. If this is to be cleaned, it is to be hoped it will be treated with the same care as the frescoes in the chapel.



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA BUNGALOW.

British Columbia Timber Exhibit at Wembley.

The constant stream of people pouring through the British Columbia bungalow at Wembley illustrates the innate love of every human for a home, and the exclamations of delight testify to the effectiveness of British Columbia timbers for both interior and exterior woodwork. Contrary to the usual practice of displaying interesting collections of unfinished boards, this exhibit shows the timbers in the finished product. The two rooms in the bungalow are completely fitted and finished.

The bungalow consists of two rooms only, a living room and dining-room, and is in an exceedingly prominent position inside the Canadian building. Both rooms are floored with edge-grained Douglas fir. The living room walls are panelled with Douglas fir, the panels themselves being three-ply veneer, and the stiles and rails are edge-grained strips. The ceiling, which is particularly admired, is of Douglas fir with cottonwood panels. This room has a built-in ingle-nook with a fireplace. The dining-room walls are panelled in British Columbia hemlock in the solid. The ceiling is beamed with solid red cedar beams, having cottonwood panels between. This room also contains a fireplace which has built-in china cabinets with leaded glass doors on either side of it. The two doorways have been very artistically treated, the overhang in each case being carried on carved cedar brackets.

A little garden has been added to give a more home-like appearance. In this have been set out small seedlings of Douglas fir, British Columbia hemlock and Sitka spruce.

In the chimney stack has been inset a plaster cast of the British Columbia coat-of-arms with the words "British Columbia."

On an adjoining space is shown a miscellaneous exhibit of British Columbia forest products, comprising sash and doors, cedar and cottonwood panelling, and sample mouldings and boards.

The Dominion Government exhibit, which comprises woods from all the provinces, affords generous space to those from British Columbia. Here one sees a timber 8 inches by 16 inches by 60 feet in length without a defect; a disc from a Douglas fir tree 11 feet in diameter; a huge block of Douglas fir approximately 5 feet square and 15 feet long on end; several huge slabs of clear red cedar; porch columns of red cedar; Sitka

spruce aeroplane parts; a Douglas fir doorway; and a portico of western soft pine logs.

In view of the tremendous housing programme which is under way, the exhibit is very timely and affords the best possible means of showing the many varied and valuable uses of British Columbia timbers to the British timber merchant, architect, and builder. That this exhibit has been effective is proved by the fact that these woods have already been specified in several large buildings in the United Kingdom as a result of visits to it by architects. The British Columbia hemlock, which has not heretofore been stocked in the United Kingdom, has recently been specified by a prominent British architect for a large school in the North, and by other architects for several residences. A recent very interesting use of Douglas fir was that in the rooms of the new building for Clare College, Cambridge University, which was designed by G. Gilbert Scott, R.A.

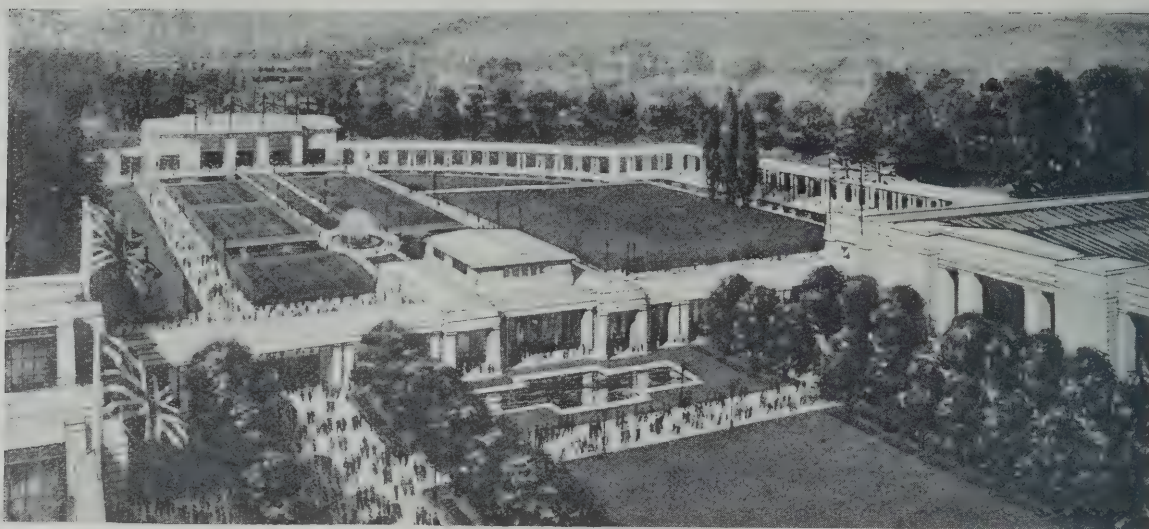
A Building and Decorative Trades' Exhibition is to be opened in the Junior Training Halls, Leicester, in October next under the management of Mr. T. Percy Bentley. The exhibition will run from October 16 to 25. The city of Leicester, which is the heart of the Midlands, is a particularly appropriate centre for such an exhibition; and as it is to be purely a trade exhibition, only manufactures applicable to the building trade being admitted, there should be no difficulty in letting the available space; in fact, a number of spaces have already been booked. The exhibition offices are at 32 Victoria Street, Manchester.

Messrs. Henry Hope & Sons, Ltd., write us that they supplied steel windows in the two top floors of P. and O. offices, Leadenhall Street, illustrated in our issue of June 6.

Messrs. The General Electric Co., Ltd., of Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, advise us that they have secured two important contracts, one for colour-sprayed Osram lamps, for decorative illumination of the "Sparrow Nest" Gardens at Lowestoft, and the other is from the Admiralty for a large order of Osram traction lamps, to be delivered to the various dockyards for use on His Majesty's ships.

The death took place on Saturday last, June 21, at Weymouth, of Mr. Edwin Seward, F.R.I.B.A., late of Lisvone House, near Cardiff.

We have been requested to announce that the Patent Victoria Stone Co., Ltd., have removed their London offices from Bishopsgate Street to 638 Salisbury House, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.2.



The British Empire Exhibition, Wembley.

It is utterly impossible to obtain a correct impression in a single visit, and though I have been to the grounds six times and on each occasion spent the whole afternoon and evening at the exhibition, I could not truthfully say that I had seen everything. In some respects the exhibition is disappointing, in other ways the visitors should be completely satisfied; it just depends on what expectations one has pictured. If you desire to inspect the Empire's products and possibly seek the best market in which to buy, Wembley should fulfil your every wish. Should one desire to examine and apply to their own individual plants or businesses the very latest ideas in almost every sphere of life, then the exhibition is the place to learn many lessons. If you seek to represent British and Colonial products and thus increase your range of articles the Empire exhibition should be invaluable—in fact, I am sure it is the happy hunting ground for the enterprising and tactful business man. The majority of exhibitors have entered into the whole matter with a very broadminded attitude. They most certainly have understood very well that each and all contribute to the whole idea, which can be perhaps best expressed in a few words. At least this is my impression of the whole idea of the exhibition.

By bringing together under one organisation, and in one exhibition as many exhibits of the Empire's activities as possible, the organisers have had as their main thought the affording of opportunities for the interchange of ideas. I believe it is their hope that the exhibitors will benefit as much if not more than the visitors by an inspection of the Empire's markets and undertakings. Very few will in all probability realise sufficient business from the actual exhibition to cover expenses, but the lessons learnt and the new fields for fresh enterprise realised will undoubtedly reward all the expense and labours of all parties concerned. Correspondence is a wonderful medium. Representatives fill a very important part in the Empire's progress. But at Wembley principals can speak to principals from far afield and each can realise the possibilities far better. And in this way the exhibition will be a great success. The immediate present is a quite a minor consideration by comparison with the founding of business connections and friendships which may possibly last for many generations.

The gardens are very effectively laid out, and many pleasing vistas can be enjoyed. Sculptured groups and figures are dotted about, and greatly add to the charm of the gardens. The manchild by W. Reid Dick, A.R.A., and a fine figure by John Angel entitled "Victory," can be recognised as amongst the best known works. In the Palace of Arts many fine examples of British modern sculpture are to be seen, including "A Royal Game," by W. Reynolds-Stephens, President of the Royal Society of British Sculptors. The original of this group is executed in various metals and inlays, and is exhibited in the Tate Gallery, London. The group represents "An Allegory of the Sea Contests between Elizabeth of England and Philip II. of Spain." Charles L. Hartwell, A.R.A., is represented by a very fine subject entitled "The Goatherd's Daughter"; the pose and swing of the figure is very pleasing. "Lilith," by Alfred Drury, R.A., is simple in treatment and has for this reason considerable charm. It represents the sculptor's diploma work, and the original is executed in marble. "The Pied Piper," by Alexander Fisher, is very well known; the figure is full of

action, and depicts the subject splendidly. Mr. Frederick J. Halton is represented by "A Bacchante," a bust of singular charm. S. Nicholson Babb has sent his "The Isle of Dreams," and T. Newburn Crook's work is represented by the "Water Lily," a most graceful figure. "The Airman," by Herman Cawthra, is one of the figures of the Bootle War Memorial, and which, judging by the airman, must be of great rugged strength. A group depicting John and Sebastian Cabot by John Cassidy gives a careful and truthful idea of the subject. "The New Age," by A. Howes, is a group which will undoubtedly arouse considerable interest and a great diversity of opinion. "Ruth and Naomi," by F. Arnold Wright, is very massive in treatment; the drapery is perhaps a little too realistic. L. S. Merrifield is represented by a full length portrait study of Williams Pantycelyn. Alfred Drury's "Lilith" mentioned above is illustrated in this issue, the selection has been governed by the fact that in recent previous issues most of the others have been reproduced. In the Palace of Arts a very fine range of paintings are shown, which include examples of all the schools of British painting, and make the collection very representative and instructive. An exhibition of architectural photographs and models has recently been opened and commented upon in the professional and general press. The period rooms are most instructive; here we can see instead of trying to remember the domestic decorations and furnishings of the Victorian period, and when we compare these with the present day ideas we know that the increased general education facilities of the past fifty years have borne fruit a thousand fold. To-day the lines of thought all find expression in simplicity and freedom, which means that our daily lives at home are less cramped and far more healthy than was the lot of former generations of the Victorian times. I do not wish to infer that many of the schemes were not beautiful, but they all seem to be overburdened with detail and small trivial things. To-day the impression is light pleasing colour schemes, a general freedom from ornaments and useless draperies, plenty of fresh air and well ventilated and heated rooms, with just the essential furniture executed in good qualities and fine taste. The domestic servant difficulty has, of course, been the greatest influence in this matter. The majority have been forced to simplify their surroundings, and in the main these difficulties have undoubtedly been productive of a great deal of good. Architects to-day as a matter of ordinary business routine think of the domestic difficulties, and plan their houses in accordance with the existing state of affairs. It is only unfortunate that so many people are obliged to live in discomfort because they are unable to alter or rebuild the houses erected towards the end of the last century. Everybody interested in domestic decorations should visit these period rooms. Another very fine set of domestic internal decorations is to be seen in the Burma pavilion illustrating the use of timber from that country. The British Columbian Government have erected a bungalow, of which we illustrate two interior views, and in the Nigerian Pavilion some interesting interiors are also exhibited. Messrs. Hampton have furnished a bungalow which stands in the Amusement section. Messrs. Waring and Gillow have a suite of rooms in the Palace of Industries, and the Gas exhibition includes many ideas for interior decorations.



PERIOD ROOMS. DRAWING ROOM, 1750. PALACE OF ARTS, WEMBLEY.



PERIOD ROOMS. DINING ROOM, 1924. PALACE OF ARTS, WEMBLEY.



PERIOD ROOMS. BEDROOM, 1924. PALACE OF ARTS, WEMBLEY.



INTERIOR OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA BUNGALOW.



HONG KONG PAVILION.

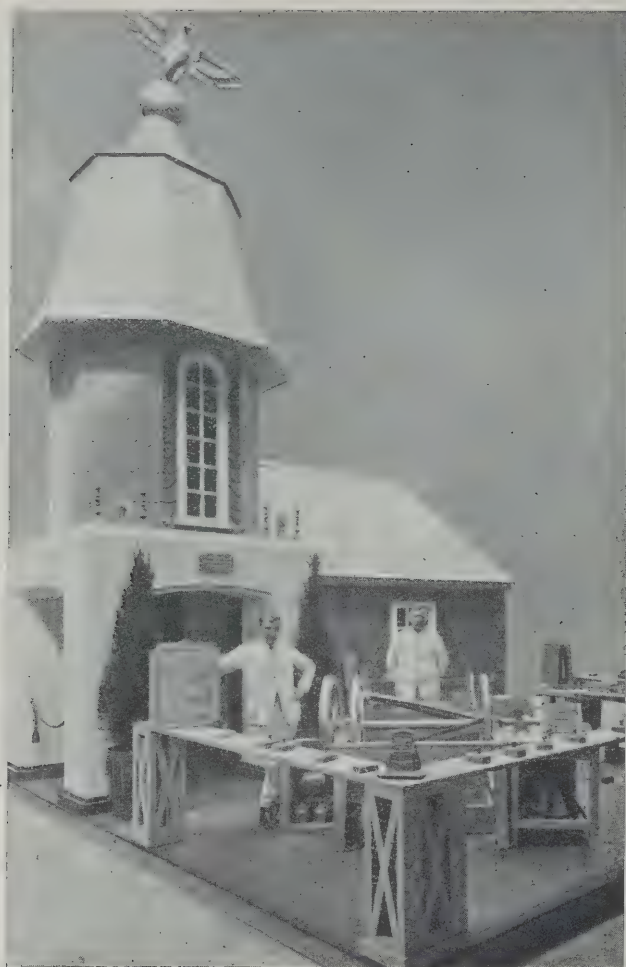
We cannot well leave the Palace of Arts without some reference to the Basilica. In the official catalogue on page 41 we find the following reference under Section 4, Applied Arts: "Basilica containing Ecclesiastical Exhibits." This seems to dispose of a really beautiful building in a very offhand manner. Naturally all the exhibits do not harmonise, but the general effect is very good indeed. The finely carved and gilt reredos surmounted by a hanging pyx, the very cleverly designed riddel-posts and candlesticks on the altar, are also good, the latter being very refined in character. The rich colouring and gilding is well set off by the dark panelling round the walls. Messrs. Wippell & Co., Ltd., of Duncannon Street, London, and Exeter, have executed the designs of Mr. W. H. Blacking, M.S.A., with great care and truthfulness, and given to the whole the very high quality for which this firm is well known throughout the ecclesiastical craftsmen of the Empire.

Passing on into the Palace of Industry, we find the exhibits in which our profession is most interested under the Chemicals A. 1-65 and Building S. 751-800. The entrance to the latter is best gained by means of the Cement Marketing Pavilion, which is distinguishable through being one of the porticoes in the East walk which connects the Gate of Harmony and the Conference and Concert Halls. Opposite to the Cement Marketing portico is the entrance to the Furniture and Decorative Textiles, which exhibits are numbered 801-850. The various porticoes or entrances to the Exhibition halls occupied by different industries have been made the subjects of architectural efforts of a very high order, and it would be difficult to decide in any very definite way which made the most striking and effective appeal. The entrance to the Food exhibits was designed by Edward B. Maufe, architect, of Raymond Buildings, who, we believe, also designed the Jewellery pavilion entrance front and also the stands occupied by Messrs. Chance Bros. & Pilkingtons, who are showing some wonderful specimens of manufactured glass. Messrs. Hendry & Schooling, architects, of 43 Doughty Street, London, W.C., were responsible for the Silk Pavilion and entrance front,

and these architects also designed a number of stands in the Palace of Engineering and other parts of the Exhibition grounds. Mr. Emberton, of Messrs. Westwood & Emberton, architects, Adelphi, London, W.C., designed the majority of the stands that are dotted all over the exhibition grounds, and can be recognised by their originality of design, for they nearly all incorporate an essential feature of the products that are for sale within, such as Sharpe's Kreemy Toffee and many others.

Close to the entrance of the Cement Marketing portico we find Messrs. Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd., 56 Gracechurch Street, E.C., Stand S. 752, and Messrs. Chubb & Son's Lock and Safe Co., Ltd., 128 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4. Both these exhibitors have made their stands very attractive, and many thousands of the visitors to the Exhibition will no doubt be able to relate how they closely inspected the banking vaults and safe rooms which both these firms have fitted up on their stands and thrown open to the public for minute inspection. Passing into the Cement Marketing Pavilion, which might be better described as forming the vestibule to the Building Exhibition Hall, we are attracted by the popular exhibit which illustrates a working model of the cement manufacturing processes. The lettering on the entrance front, which is in cement, was tooled by a skilful stone carver, and the edges could not have been sharper had the material been stone. Before reaching the Building exhibits proper we pass through a short passage which has been occupied by Henry Hope & Sons, Ltd., Smethwick, near Birmingham, Stand S. 759. By means of a very clever arrangement these exhibitors have utilised the upper part of their stand to illustrate in a number of panels along the frieze views of the different buildings of importance for which they have executed business contracts. The stand of Messrs. Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham, Stand S. 760, adjoins the last-named exhibitors, and displays a number of specimens of office furniture.

On entering the Building Hall, the central stands are occupied by the slate quarry exhibitors, Messrs. The Festiniog



THE FESTINIOG SLATE QUARRIES STAND.

District Slate Quarry Proprietors' Association, Portmadoc, North Wales, and Messrs. the Penrhyn Slate Quarry. Of the former we include an illustration. Demonstrations are constantly given with the slate cutting machine, and interesting discourses are delivered on the formation and quarrying of the slates. The stand illustrates some of the uses to which slates can be applied. It is impossible to miss the stand, and its official number in the catalogue of the Exhibition is given as S. 779. Messrs. Robert Adams, 3-5 Emerald Street, London, W.C., Stand S. 764, are showing, amongst other patents, a very interesting lock which can be so utilised that the occupier of a room can fix the furniture and secure himself from all possible interruption. This lock has been specially designed for use in hospitals. Light sleepers can ensure that they will not be disturbed by careless individuals who might rattle the handle by mistake. Some models of draught-preventers are also exhibited by Messrs. Elsan Manufacturing Co., 9 Tabernacle Street, E.C.2, Stand S. 765. On this stand the Elsan closet is exhibited, and Colonial and overseas visitors to the Exhibition have been very profuse in their appreciation of its practical value. Messrs. Joseph Kaye & Sons, Ltd., Lock Works, Leeds, Stand S. 763, are displaying articles in contrast to their immediate neighbours, Robert Adams, and this tactful display reflects considerable credit and foresight, as Messrs. Kaye obtain recognition for their art metal-work patent locks and fittings, and also by force of contrast attract attention to their oil cans, etc.

Messrs. Marezzo Marble and Mosaic Co., 54 Queen Street, Camden Town, N.W., occupy Stand S. 767, and Messrs. Ozonair, Ltd., 96 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, are showing on Stand S. 774 an apparatus for producing ozone. The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., Marconi House, London, W.C.2, have utilised the back of the slate quarry stands for the installation of the Exhibition Automatic Telephone Exchange. Messrs. Scaffolding (Great Britain), Ltd., 43 Lansdowne Road, S.W.8, Stand S. 755, have erected an exhibit which shows the use of the Patent Scaffixer Ties as well as the whole system of Tubular Scaffolding. Overseas visitors have been considerably impressed by this exhibit. Messrs. Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., 29 Cannon Street, London, E.C.4, Stand S. 766, have also arranged their exhibits in such a manner as to attract visitors. Ranges and stoves have been displayed by Messrs. Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge, Scotland, and Ludgate Circus,

London, on Stand S. 755. Messrs. Sidney Flavel & Co., Ltd., Leamington, Stand S. 756, are showing the kitchener that they exhibited at the 1851 Exhibition, which was inspected by Queen Victoria and secured one of the 17 awards presented at that exhibition. Messrs. Walker, Hunter & Co., Ltd., ironfounders, Falkirk, Scotland, Stand S. 769, are also showing exhibits under the above title. Messrs. Thames Paper Co., Ltd., Purfleet, Essex, Stand S. 775, are showing specimens of their well-known "SX." Board. We read that the Essex Boards were used by Mr. Ronald Haybrook in his decorations of the Exhibition Dance Hall, and that the paintings exhibit all the depth of colour as if they had been rendered on canvas. We quite agree with this report. The boards were also used in the Australian and Indian Pavilions.

Messrs. The Triangular Construction Co., Ltd., Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey, Stand S. 771A, are exhibiting their machinery and specimens of triangular blocks, of which we have on former occasions expressed ourselves very favourably. Messrs. Winget, Ltd., Winget House, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1, Stand S. 758, are exhibiting amongst other machinery their carrier.

We now pass into the main Gas Exhibit. Here we are charmed with the whole colour scheme of the hall. In niches, under the title of the "Seven Ages of Woman," the organisers have been very successful in arranging rooms which abound in useful ideas, and we strongly recommend to our readers a very careful study of the various apartments. We pass through the pavilion devoted to jewellery into the Ulster Exhibit, and across the North Walk into the Chemical Exhibits, which figure in the catalogue under letter A. 1-100. Whilst the Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., exhibits perhaps do not interest architects greatly, the pavilion has been executed with considerable taste and is well worth while visiting. On Stand A. 96 the Kalbitum Paint Co., Ltd., Belvedere Works, Erith, Kent, are showing bituminous anti-corrosive and preservative paint for all structural purposes. Messrs. Keystone Varnish Co., Ltd., Scott Street, Hull, Stand A. 51, have on view specimens of paints, varnishes and enamels. Messrs. London Varnish and Enamel Co., Ltd., The City Works, Carpenter's Road, Stratford, London, E.15, are displaying varnishes, enamels and paints on Stand A. 99. Messrs. Naylor Brothers (London), Ltd., Slough, Stand A. 97, are exhibiting all their well-known products, including paints, enamels, distempers, and finishes for decorators. Messrs. Orr's Zinc



THE MAORI PAVILION.



TYPICAL BATH ROOM. Exhibited by MESSRS. TWYFORDS, LTD.

White, Ltd., Widnes, Lancs, are exhibiting on Stand A. 42. Messrs. The Sunlight Enamel Paint Co., Ltd., 6 Broad Street Place, London, E.C.2, Stand A6c, have arranged a bright display. Messrs. Walpamur & Co., Ltd., The Hollins Paint Works, Darwen, Lancs, and 35-6 Rathbone Place, London, W.1, have exposed to view their varnishes and enamels on Stand A. 586. On Stand A. 81 Messrs. Wilkins, Oliver & Co., Ltd., Derby, are exhibiting colours and paints in an effective display.

Messrs. Joseph Freeman, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wandle Colour Works, Wandsworth, London, S.W.18, are exhibiting their fine range of paints, colours and varnishes in the Building Hall on Stand 772, and we cannot help thinking that they have been very wise to select the Building Section rather than show their products in the Chemical department.

Messrs. Twyford, Ltd., Cliffe Vale Potteries, Hanley, Staffs, have associated themselves, for the purpose of erecting a most effective exhibit, with Messrs. Pilkington Tile and Pottery Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester, Stand M. 428. The Pavilion entrance contains a very artistic fountain in mosaic tiles, which contains gold fish; on the right and left of the entrance blue and red tiles of a soft matt glaze make a very effective contrast with the matt silver tiles in the immediate background behind the fountain. We pass behind the fountain into a corridor executed in black and white matt tiles with a pictorial frieze depicting children in black silhouette on a white ground. The corridor is the means of access through arched bays to alcoves in which Messrs. Twyford, Ltd., have fitted their various exhibits, including a number of different bathroom arrangements.

Division V, Palace of Engineering, Section A.

Many exhibits are shown in this building of enormous area which are of considerable interest to the architect and building industry. We start in alphabetical order to name a few of the stands we have been able to examine.

Messrs. Benjamin Electric, Ltd., Ledsam Street Works, Birmingham, Avenue 14, Bay 15: We recently had occasion to inspect this firm's excellent installation of footlights at the Fortune Theatre, Russell Street, W.C. The British Electric Vehicles, Ltd., Churchtown Works, Southampton, are exhibiting various trucks in Avenue 15, Bay 11; in these times of transport difficulties these trucks are sure to attract attention not only from our overseas contractors, but also from our friends in London and country. In Avenue 13-15, Bay 1-4,

Messrs. British Electrical Development Association, 15, Savoy Street, Strand, have on view a number of electrical utensils of a domestic character. Messrs. The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Crown House, Aldwych, London, Avenue 9-10, Bay 11-15, have arranged a comprehensive display of their many electrical appliances. The Cable Makers' Association, Sardinia House, Sardinia Street, Kingsway, W.C.2, occupy effectively, Avenue 10, Bay 17-18, in the centre of which a delightfully cool fountain lends a peaceful charm to the exhibit. The London Electric Wire Co. and Smith's, Ltd., Playhouse Yard, Golden Lane, London, E.C.1, Avenue 9, Bay 18, with whom are associated the Liverpool Electric Cable Co., Bootle, Liverpool, have displayed a very comprehensive range of rubber insulated wires, cables and flexibles; they have a very high reputation for quality; and so as to secure complete satisfaction architects would be well advised to include them in their specifications. In this short note it is impossible to go over the extensive display in detail, but those interested and unable to visit the exhibition can receive full particulars on application to their head office. Messrs. John Dugdill & Co., Hazel Grove, near Stockport, are showing a number of very practical movable fittings for gas, electricity, etc., which should recommend themselves to the architect for use in his own offices, etc. (Stand in Avenue 15, Bay 5).

Messrs. Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough, England, who have erected a very imposing pavilion in the Palace of Engineering at Wembley, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., have published a very attractively illustrated review of their many activities. The frontispiece is a view of the proposed Sydney Harbour bridge, reproduced in colours from a very effective drawing by Cyril A. Farey and Graham R. Darbarn. The bridge is to be an arch bridge of 1650 feet clear span, the total length of the arch and approach spans being 3,790 feet. Headroom for vessels passing in or out of the harbour will be 170 feet at high water, and the height to the top of the arch will be 440 feet above high water. The bridge is to carry four railway tracks as well as a 57 feet roadway and two footways, and will have a total width of 160 feet. This contract was placed with Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., by the Government of New South Wales in February, 1924. The bridge project and specification were prepared by Mr. J. J. C. Bradfield, M.E., M.Inst.C.E., chief engineer to the New South Wales Government, and competitive tenders were invited from bridge contracting firms throughout the world. Messrs. Dorman Long & Co.

submitted seven alternative tenders. The designs for the abutment towers were prepared by Sir John J. Burnet, A.R.A., and Partners, architects. The fact that Messrs. Dorman Long & Co. submitted seven alternative tenders speaks very highly for the enterprise of the firm. Whilst the contract is, of course, very big, the work of preparing seven alternative tenders, each different to the other, entailed a great deal of work, and we heartily congratulate the firm on their success and enterprise which, if emulated by other British firms, would soon place the empire in an unassailable position for grit and courage.

Facing the frontispiece the firm have included a very tastefully arranged title page, well spaced, and the lettering chosen is expressive of taste and a refined culture. On page 6 an illustration of the blast furnace plant at Acklam Works cannot fail to impress everyone with the conviction that the firm is ready to compete with anybody. One glance at the small human figures shown on the left hand of the picture, which would be nearest to the camera will give an accurate idea of the size of these furnaces. On page 10 it is again possible to judge the relative size of the plant by the figures in the mid-distance. Interesting and illustrative views are given on pages 14, 15 and 16.

On page 40 a very fine aerial view is included in the book, illustrating Dormanstown. The picture shows a fine lay out scheme for town planning designed by Messrs. Adshead and Ramsey and Patrick Abercrombie, architects. Up to date about 500 houses have been built and are in occupation of the company's employees. In many parts of the exhibition at Wembley illustrations of colonial enterprise and industrial welfare schemes are to be seen, and we thank Messrs. Dorman Long & Co. for having published the book we have here reviewed. Our visitors may secure a copy on application and thus take away with them a very comprehensive idea of the care and enterprise that Messrs. Dorman Long & Co. not only extend to their business, but to their employees.

Messrs. Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., 123-125 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, have erected a very effective central feature forming a pavilion on their stand, Avenue 11-12, Bay 15-16, tastefully painted in red, blue and gold, and bearing the word "Ediswan." Messrs. Electrical Installations, Ltd., 27 Martin Lane, E.C.4, engineers and contractors, occupy Bay 15-16, Avenue 14. Messrs. Electrical Utilities, Ltd., Tudor Works, Park Royal, N.W.10, manufacturers of electrical heating apparatus and current limiters, are showing in Bay 4, Avenue 11. Messrs. English Electric Co., Ltd., Queen's House, Kingsway, W.C.2, have their display in Bay 20-24, Avenue 9-10. Messrs. General Electric Co., Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, W.C.2, occupy Bay 11-15, Avenue 11-13; and it can be truthfully stated that this exhibit is one of the most comprehensive displays of electrical power as applied to industrial and domestic purposes in the whole exhibition. We would like to express our special admiration of the illuminated rock garden. Messrs. Jackson Electric Stove Co., Ltd., 143 Sloane Street, S.W.1, are showing some interesting exhibits in Bay 4, Avenue 10, and Messrs. K. F. M. Engineering Co., Ltd., 40 Long Acre, London, W.C.2, are exhibiting some artistic "Internalite" patent electric signs in Bay 15, Avenue 15. Messrs. Lamplough Daylamp, Ltd., 296 Regent Street, W.1, are showing by means of an effective device the difference of daylight and electric light on all colours. On this stand in Bay 11, Avenue 15, the exhibitor is showing lamps that will shed a perfect artificial daylight. Messrs. London Electric Firm, Croydon, and The Electric Heating Co., Croydon, who are electric, mechanical and heating engineers, have a stand in Bay 5-6, Avenue 14. Messrs. Mather & Platt, Ltd., Manchester, and 14 Great Smith Street, S.W.1, have an extensive exhibit on which, amongst many other interesting items, some of their fire protection machinery is to be seen on a stand in Avenue 8-9, Bay 11-12. Messrs. Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., have their proper exhibit in Bay 11-12, Avenue 14. The exhibit in the Building Section is the automatic exchange for the British Empire Exhibition. Messrs. Siemens and English Electric Lamp Co., Ltd., 38 and 39 Upper Thames Street, E.C.4, are displaying examples of their domestic electric fittings in Bay 15-17, Avenue 11. Messrs. Waygood-Otis, Ltd., 54-55 Fetter Lane, E.C.4, have arranged a very comprehensive display of the application of lifts to many useful purposes as applied to domestic and industrial life.

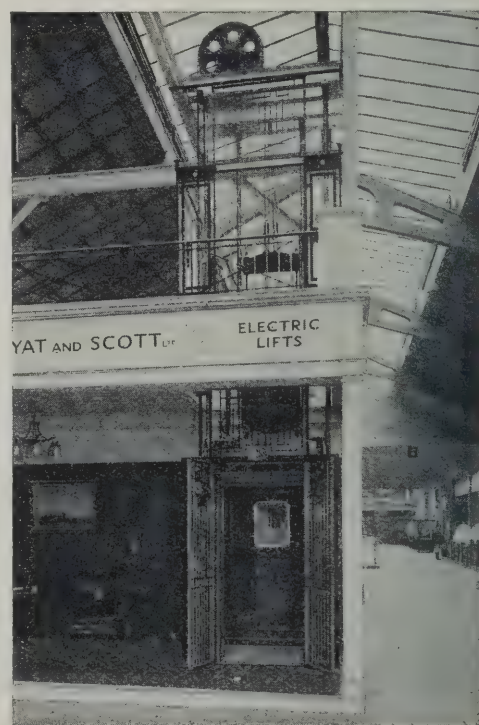
Section B, General Engineering, etc.

Messrs. Aerograph Co., Ltd., 43, Holborn Viaduct, E.C., Stand 93, Avenue 4, Bay 8-9, are showing many exhibits, besides their paint spraying equipment. At all times demonstrations will be given by experts on application at the stand. Messrs. W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Soho Foundry, Birmingham, are exhibiting many examples of their patents in connection with weighing, testing and counting machines (Stand 153, Avenue

2-3, Bay 10-11). The well-known firm of Messrs. Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh and Glasgow, occupy part of Stand 41, Avenue 5-6, Bay 7-9, in association with Messrs. The Darlington Rolling Mills, Co., Ltd., Darlington. Messrs. The Eston Sheet and Galvanising Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough, and Messrs. Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Messrs. Butters, Bros. & Co., Sentinel House, Southampton Row, W.C.1, are showing models of cranes, etc., on Stand 221, Avenue 1, Bay 13.

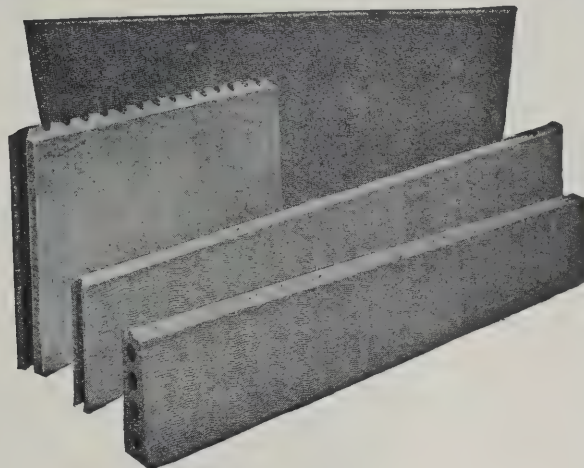
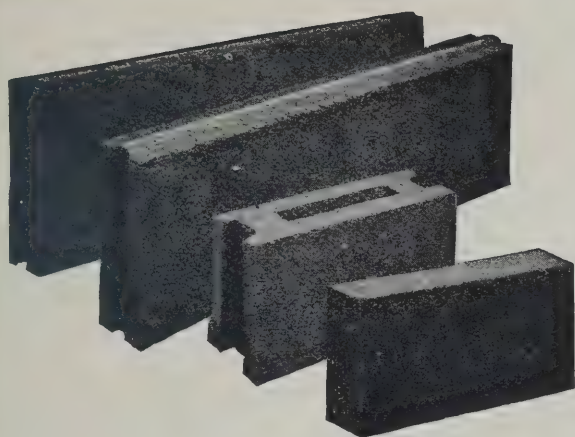
Messrs. Ferodo, Ltd., Sovereign Mills, Chapel-en-le-Frith, are showing on Stand 200, Avenue 1, Bay 28, amongst many other interesting exhibits, their well-known Feroleum nosing, which is a new patented method manufactured for the purpose of carrying the heavy traffic of the stairs fitted in hotels, cinemas, theatres and other public buildings. The white nosing reflects a line of light in semi-darkness and thus directs the footsteps to the edge of the step in safety. Messrs. John Fowler & Co., Leeds and London, are showing on Stand 24, Avenue 6-7, Bay 18-20, some special concrete mixing machinery. Messrs. Richard Hill & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough, are displaying a number of interesting manufactures, including their electrically-welded steel fabric, hoops, helicals, stirrup and fabricated bars, patents extensively used in the making of modern reinforced concrete roads and other work on Stand 190, Avenue 2, Bay 25. Messrs. James Keith & Blackman Co., Ltd., 27 Farringdon Avenue, E.C.4, are exhibiting their well known ventilating fans, etc., on Stand 22, Avenue 6-7, Bay 21-22. Messrs. George Kent, Ltd., 199 High Holborn, W.C.1, are showing a display of domestic machinery on Stand 80, Avenue 1-2, Bay 12-13.

The City of Hull are holding a special meeting at the exhibition between July 2-15, inclusive, under the title of the City of Hull Civic Fortnight. Those interested in timber should find this special meeting of considerable interest. We already read in the press of opinions having been expressed for extending the period of the exhibition. This seems to indicate very forcibly that the exhibitors are doing better than some pessimists would have us believe. We are very well satisfied with the enquiries we have received from visitors who have inspected our journal at the Trade and Technical Press Bureau Stand No. 277, Palace of Engineering. Messrs. The Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London and Birmingham, Stand 20, Avenue 6-7, Bay 25-26, have erected a pavilion constructed entirely of Delta Bronze, No. IV sections and plates. They write and tell us that quite a number of architects have expressed their pleasure over the artistic beauty of the pavilion.



Messrs. Marryat & Scott, Ltd., 28 Hatton Garden, E.C.1, have arranged an effective stand, numbered 35, Avenue 7, Bay 5, part of which consists of a pannelled room, the other part being occupied by a very well furnished lift with artistic gates and other fittings, testifying of the taste and care devoted by these manufacturers to the lifts and plants they execute. Messrs. Mellowes & Co., Ltd., Sheffield, and 26 Victoria Street, S.W.1, are showing

CONCRETE BLOCKS "KING" PLASTER SLABS



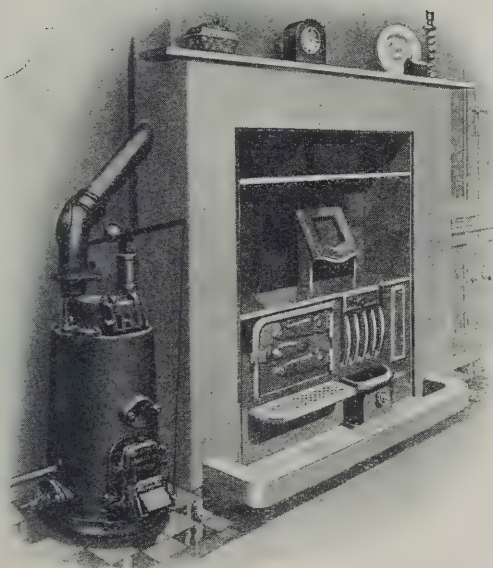
Partitions, External Walls, Ceilings, Roofs, etc.

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examples of "Eclips" patent roof glazing on Stand 135, Avenue 2, Bay 22-23. Messrs. Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale, Stand 129, Avenue 2-3, Bay 26-27, are showing asbestos in all its forms. Hair and balata belting, asbestos cement roofing materials, Turners' "Trafford" tiles, "Enduroil" tiles, "Ægis" flat sheets and slates. This firm supplied approximately one and a half million square feet of roofing to the exhibition buildings, amongst which were the Stadium and the Palaces of Engineering and Industry. Messrs. Newalls Insulation Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne, and 120 Fenchurch Street, E.C.3, who are associated with the above firm, occupy part of the stand. Messrs. Turner Stuart, Ltd., 43 Market Place, Henley-on-Thames, are showing country house electric light plants on Stand 203, Avenue 1, Bay 25-26.

Messrs. John & Edwin Wright, Ltd., Universe Rope Works, Garrison Street, Birmingham, have a very full display of their manufactures on Stand 236, S.W. Block, Bay 5.

Messrs. Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland, near Preston, Lancs, and 24 Duke Street, Aldgate, E.C.2, are showing many products other than tiling and flooring, and are thus exhibiting under the Rubber Industries on Stand C105. As also are Messrs. North British Rubber Co., Ltd., 204 Tottenham Court Road, Stand C101, who amongst other things also specialise in rubber floorings.

Messrs. Small & Parkes, Ltd., Hendham Vale Works, Harpurhey, Manchester, Stand 105, Avenue 3-4, Bay 16-17, are showing some interesting rubber tiling patterns. We hear that they are executing a considerable order for the District Bank, Cornhill, E.C. Their pattern book, entitled "Velo" Rubber Tiling, includes some very artistic patterns.

In Section D, under the title of domestic utilities, we find Messrs. Haslar's Patent Appliance, Ltd., 29a High Road, Kilburn, N.W.6, Stand D157, exhibiting their automatic disinfectors, and Messrs. The Rawlplug Co., Ltd., Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7, on Stand D158.



GARDEN GROUP by PHOEBE STABLER.

Many exhibits in the grounds are of great interest. The Leckhampton Quarries Co., Ltd., Sandy Lane, Charlton Kings, near Cheltenham, Glos, have executed some charming architectural enrichments in connection with a garden exhibit. From the Exhibition Station across Old London Bridge is the shortest route to the garden exhibits and the Government Pavilion. We include an illustration of one of Mrs. Stabler's latest groups, which is being executed in Indurate Trigonite. The proprietors of the Leckhampton Quarries would be interested to hear from any sculptor who might care to enter into an arrangement with them for the reproduction of his work. With the possibility of such very accurate reproductions being made in such a sympathetic material, sculptors, we feel sure, will be keen to take advantage of this opportunity. The art of reproduction has reached such a very high standard that the arguments against the production of a number of copies no longer applies. The figures at Wembley executed by this firm are very good indeed, as also is the general layout and arrangement of the architectural features of the garden.

Messrs. Fredk. Braby & Co., Ltd., have erected a unique pavilion, which includes steel trusses on the unite principle, with a roof of stamped zinc tiles and having copper hips and ridges. This pavilion has been designed and erected under the supervision of W. Braxton Sinclair, F.R.I.B.A., of 8 Buckingham Street, Strand. A picture of the pavilion, executed in water colours by Cyril A. Farey, is now exhibited in the architectural room at the Royal Academy. The outside walls are entirely built of steel and copper. The steel sheet panels are neatly-fitted in sections to represent stonework. The flooring is of simple and economical construction, being of pressed steel, filled in with composition or concrete. There is a large display of steel, zinc and aluminium products of every description in the exhibition catalogue; particulars will be found on page 164. Fredk. Braby & Co., Ltd., 352-364 Euston Road, London, N.W. (works: Deptford, Liverpool, Bristol, Glasgow and Falkirk), Section E, Eastern Girdle (E.S. North).

In the same girdle Messrs. Oetzmann & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Road, N.W.11, have erected an eight-roomed cottage. In the Lion Way (E.S. North), Messrs. Hampton & Sons, Ltd., Pall Mall East, London, S.W.1, have built and furnished a complete model bungalow. As you enter a notice informs one of the price of the whole furniture of the bungalow which, if we remember correctly, is given at £500.

Another building may be expected a little distance from the above bungalow, erected by the Nonplus Buildings, Ltd., 216 Abbey House, Victoria Street, S.W.

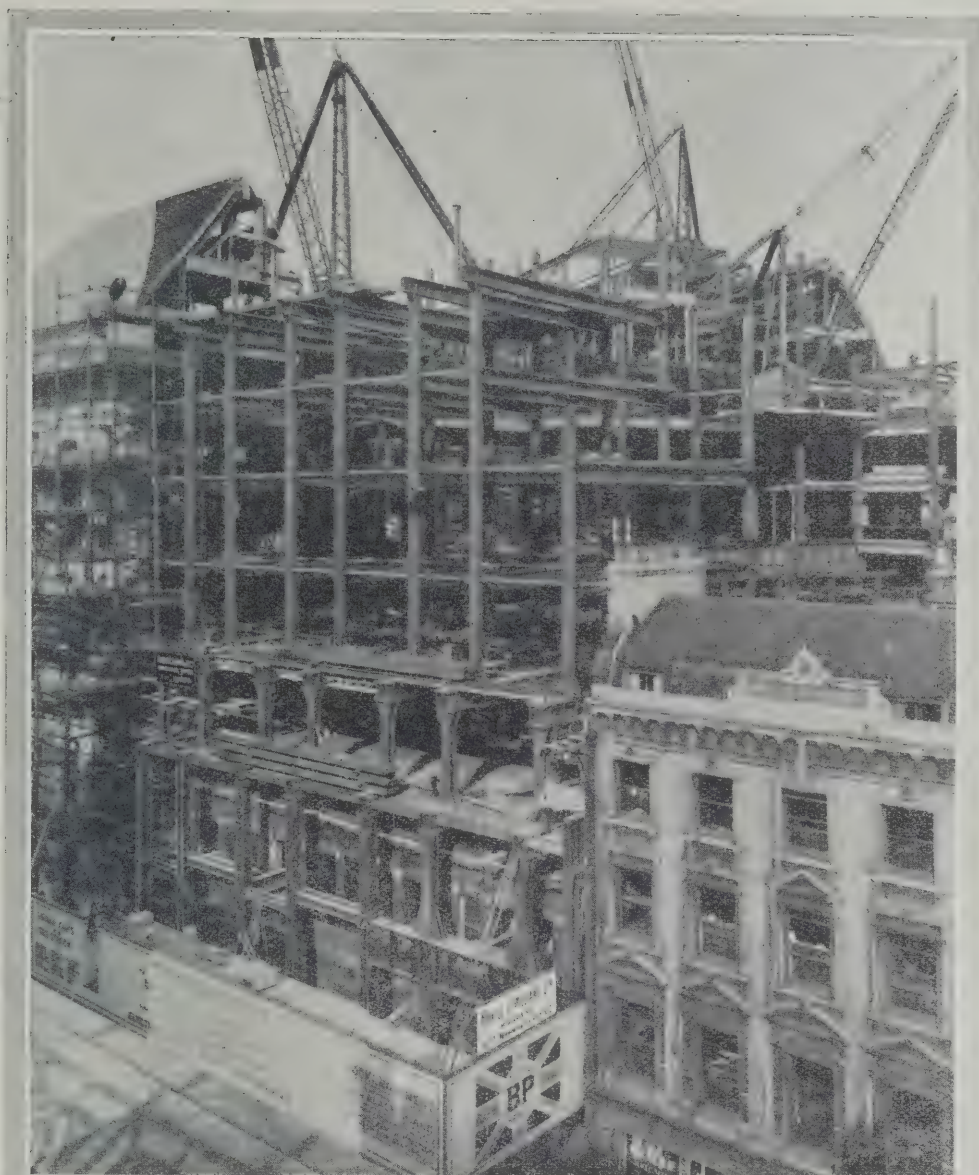
Wailles Dove Bitumastic, Ltd., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, have a very comprehensive display on their Stand (No. 245, Bay 1, South West Block). Glass showcases depict "Bitumastic" coloured solution in many attractive shades, which the makers claim to be the only genuine bituminous solutions certified by public analysts; "Bitumastic" black solutions in four grades, viz.: the well known original "Bitumastic" solution, "Bitublack" smoke stack solution, "Bitumastic" dipping solution, and "Bituros" solution, together with four grades of "Bitumastic" enamels, occupy another showcase. Such a display of this Company's manufactures cannot fail to enlist the interest of all who deal with the maintenance of iron and steel structures.

We omitted, in our survey of the Palace of Engineering, to refer to Messrs. Vickers' exhibit, which is very representative of this firm's immense undertakings. One very attractive feature is the clock tower, in which Messrs. Gillett & Johnston have installed a most melodious peal of bells. Chimes are played on these 23 bells and the whole exhibit is very attractive in every way. We also omitted to mention Messrs. Jenkins Bros., Ltd., 103 St. Remi Street, Montreal, Canada, and 6 Great Queen Street, Kingsway, W.C.2 who have their stand in the Canadian Section, Stand No. 75. This firm have established a world-wide reputation for their Diamond Mark valves, which are of correct design and made with the best materials, accurately machined and possessing interchangeable parts.

Messrs. Major & Co., Ltd., Hull, manufactures of "Solignum," the well known and exhaustively tested wood preservative and stain, treated quite a number of buildings at Wembley with "Solignum." The office of Holman, Bros., Messrs. Boulton & Paul's bungalow, all institutes and switchback railway in green solignum. Summer houses near dairy in brown and the dairy in brown and green. The stadium seats in brown "Solignum," and runners for steps in standing portion and all entrances and temporary barricades in green. The Colonial Bank in Gold Coast in brown "Solignum." "Celotex," a lining sheet, has been used by the Australian Government in their offices, and also by the Queensland authorities in their reception hall in the Australian Pavilion. Messrs. Bivert & Firth have applied "Celotex" to a number of rooms in their offices at Cunard House, 27 Cockspur Street, Trafalgar Square, London, S.W.1. And those who visit the same will be kindly received and have the many uses and advantages of "Celotex" willingly demonstrated to them.

Messrs. W. H. Gaze & Sons, Ltd., 10 Conduit Street, W.1, decorators, builders and contractors, have a stand in Section E Lounge, Avenue 8-9, Bay 13-17. We had occasion some little while ago to describe a house called the Gazeway, which was furnished by the exhibitors in a very tasteful manner.

Messrs. Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London and Smethwick, near Birmingham, are showing a display of many of their manufactures on Stand 250, Avenue 1-3, Bay 2-4. Messrs. Kitson Engineering Co. (London), Ltd., "Kelite" Works, Stamford, Lincs, are displaying some very attractive incandescent oil lamps and stoves, etc., without wicks or chimneys, on Stand 240, S.W. Block, Bay 2.



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General News.

ASHBURTON.—A sub-committee has been appointed by the Devon County Council to consider proposals submitted by the Grammar School Governors for the provision of a new house for the headmaster, with accommodation for boarders.

BARNSTAPLE.—A new pavilion is to be erected by the County Council in the grounds of the Hawley sanatorium so that accommodation can be arranged for 24 additional patients.

BLYTH.—The Medical Officer of Health reports on the need for the provision of a public abattoir.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Plans passed by Town Council: School, Bloomfield Avenue, for Mr. G. Atkins; house, Seaford Road, for Mr. A. H. Jackson; two houses, Clarence Park Road, for Mr. A. E. Scott; two pairs of houses, Wroxford Road, for Messrs. Bolus & Clarke; additions to bank in Christchurch Road, for the National Provincial Bank; house, Court Road, for Mr. W. Moore; two houses, Ensbury Park and Vicarage Road, for Mr. T. Fry; house, garage and store, Ensbury Park, for Mr. T. Fry; house, Bushey Road, for Mrs. M. Squires; house, Highfield Road, for Mr. Widdicombe; house, King Edward Avenue, for Mr. A. G. Cobb; house, Grand Avenue, for Mr. A. Moody; house, College Road, for Messrs. J. Drewitt & Son; house, Highfield Road, for Mr. A. E. Baker; five houses, Stamford Road, for Messrs. H. B. Mudge & Son; house, Crabton Close Road, for Messrs. Midgeley & Hardy, Ltd.; house, Crabtree Close Road, for Mr. H. R. Collins; house, Albemarle Road, for Mr. C. H. Belbin; five houses, De Lisle Road, for Mr. A. A'Court Simmonds; house, Queen Mary Avenue, for Mr. F. Richards; two houses, Horsa Road, for Mr. G. Witt; house, Lonsdale Road, for Mr. Morse; house, Irving Road, for Mr. E. Wood; house, Woods View, for Mr. A. Barnes; house, East Avenue, for Mr. A. Barnes; house and garage, Dunkeld Road, for Mr. S. M. Davis, jun.; house, St. Luke's Road, for Mr. A. Barnes; bungalow, Delhi Road, for Mr. R. Barre; two houses, Stamford Road, for Mr. M. Sellick; house and garage, Dingle Road, for Mr. R. J. M. Nabney; house and garage, Ravine Road, for Mr. R. J. M. Nabney; two flats, corner of Green and Rutland Roads, for Mrs. I. Pawsey; two houses, Heytesbury Road, for Mr. F. Pond; four houses, Muscliff Road, for Pastor W. O. Hutchinson; house, De Lisle Road, for Mrs. Cook; house, Carbery Avenue, for Mr. J. Scott; two houses, Pickford Road, for Mr. G. G. Mapp; two houses, Pickford Road, for Mrs. R. Rosenberg; house, Pickford Road, for Mrs. Aish; house, Hengistbury Road, for Mr. P. Harrison; house, Stokewood Road, for Mr. J. W. Davis; house, Southill Road, for Mr. W. P. Rogers; bungalow, Westfield Road, for Mr. A. H. Potter; house, Heatherlea Road, for Mr. F. Elcock; house, rear of 33 Tower Road, for Mrs. Legg; bungalow, Delhi Road, for Mr. C. T. Morgan; house, Southill Road, for Mr. P. Illingworth; alterations and additions, "The Home Sanatorium," Southbourne Road, for the United Services Fund; house, The Avenue, for Messrs. H. Ellison, Son & Dale; house and garage, Boreham Road, for Mr. H. Hook; additions and conversion into flats, 56 Beaufort Road, for Mr. S. Adams; house, St. Ledger's Road, for Mr. W. F. Alner; house, Highfield Road, for Mr. I. L. Smith; house, Ensbury Park Road, for Mr. G. C. Smith; house, Highfield Road, for Mr. C. Miller; house, Crichel Road, for Mr. F. Bowden; house, Eldon Road, for Mr. C. Singleton; alterations to premises, 128 and 130 Old Christchurch Road, for the Bank of Liverpool & Martin, Ltd.; house and garage, Browning Avenue, for Mr. R. J. M. Nabney; house, Pine Road, for Messrs. Kennedy's, Ltd.; bungalow, Arnewood Road, for Messrs. Burton & Walsh; house, Douglas Road, for Mr. E. D. Duss; house, 28 Evelyn Road, for Mr. G. Meadowcroft; house and garage, Lonsdale Road, for Dr. W. Green; five houses, Arnewood and Boreham Roads, for Mr. A. Webb; house, Namu Road, for Miss Standbridge; house, Methuen Road, for Messrs. F. Hoare & Sons; house, Pickford Road, for Mr. J. W. Roddy; house, Pickford Road, for Mr. G. A. Vatter; house, Pickford Road, for Mr. W. A. Christopher; house, Queen Mary Avenue, for Mr. A. W. Barnes; house, Westfield Road, for Mrs. M. G. Seal; house, Pickford Road, for Mr. W. E. Forster; house, Oakwood Road, for Mr. Pottenger; house, Victoria Avenue, for Mr. Hallett; two houses, Portland Road, for Mr. F. White; three houses, Stamford Road, for Messrs. Small Bros.; house, Shirley Road, for Mr. J. L. Welch; house, Seaford Road, for Mrs. F. P. Talbot; house, Arnewood Road, for Mr. Hiscock; house, Carbery Avenue, for Mr. G. Richards; house, Evelyn Road, for Mr. W. G. Wragg; house, South Hill Road, for Mr. W. Mearing.—The Corporation have accepted the tender of Messrs. Hawkins Bros. of two blocks of flats at £1,769 19s. per block, and the firm are being asked if they will tender at the same price for five blocks.—In connection with the Pavilion site, Messrs. Home & Knight were officially appointed architects, and they report that to avoid delay they have instructed the con-

sulting engineer, Sir E. G. Williams, to arrange for the necessary borings to be made on the site for the purpose of ascertaining the exact nature of the subsoil.—A loan is to be obtained for £30,000 for sewer outfall, Southbourne.—The tender of Messrs. F. Bevis, Ltd., has been accepted for reinforced concrete bridges at Boscombe Chine, £1,678, and at Alum Chine, £1,651.—The tender of the Standard Construction and Maintenance Co., £3,850, has been accepted for office, shelter, and bungalows on the Undercliff Drive.

BRENT (DEVON).—The County Council propose if possible to include in next year's estimates a sum of £15,000 for reconstructing Brent Bridge.

BRIGHTON.—The Corporation propose to arrange for an auxiliary water supply to the Race Hill and Warren reservoirs at a cost of £2,100.—The borough surveyor is to prepare plans for the erection of three-storeyed flats on a site in Loder Road.—The Electricity Commissioners have sanctioned a loan of £14,100 for extensions at the Southwick power station.—Plans passed: Conversion into two self-contained flats, 36 Montpelier Road, Mrs. K. G. Armfield (Gates & Sons); bungalow, Hangleton Road (W. H. Webber); six houses, Reigate Road (T. Garrett & Son); ten houses, Ditchling Road (T. R. Braybon); New shop front, 35 Coombe Terrace, F. W. Leaney (A. E. H. Eldridge); two houses, Princes Road, C. T. Thorpe (E. Birch).—The Committee has decided that the plans of the Imperial Arcade, when amended in accordance with certain stipulations, by Messrs. Clayton & Black, for Messrs. J. Smith & Sons, Ltd., be approved.

CASTLEFORD.—The Urban District Council have a scheme for the erection of a maternity home, and plans have been prepared by Mr. C. F. Scatchard, the honorary architect. These plans have been approved by the Minister of Health, and a grant of £2,000 has been promised by the Miners' Welfare Fund towards the scheme.

COULSDON AND PURLEY.—After much discussion the Urban District Council have agreed to proceed with the erection of offices at Banstead Road, and accepted the tender of Mr. A. Monk, of Edmonton, £19,721.—The Council have decided to purchase the manorial rights of the Coulsdon Court estate.—A scheme has been submitted to the Council by the P. Harvey Estates, Ltd., showing the proposed lay-out of the Selsdon Park estate.—It is proposed to erect two houses at the Purley Oaks depot for Council employees.—Tenders are to be invited for the erection of 52 houses on the Godstone Road housing site.—In connection with the Croydon South and Bedding South town planning scheme, the housing committee of the Council recommends a formal objection with a view to the restrictions regarding the Purley Oaks area being amended to provide for a shopping area, bringing the same into conformity with the area scheduled as a shopping area in the Council's district. The town plan provides for the zoning of the Purley Oaks area for residential purposes for houses at 10 to the acre. Plans recommended for approval: House, Howard Road, for Messrs. Thomas & Son; five houses, Woodcote Valley Road, for Mr. A. T. Bate; house, Heathurst Road, for Mr. W. J. Jackson; two houses, Downlands Road, for Mr. J. G. Cooper; house, Smitham Bottom Lane, for Mr. S. M. Deacon; house, Arkwright Road, for Mr. D. F. Rigby; house, Ridgway, for Mr. B. C. Rigby; house, Penwortham Road, for Mr. F. St. J. B. Brewer; six houses, Chipstead Valley Road, for Mr. Walter; cottage, two houses, Red Down Road, for Messrs. Elms & Jupp; house, Promenade de Verdun, for Mr. G. G. Reeve; house, Ridgway, for Mr. H. E. Shipp; house, Arkwright Road, for Mr. A. Zobel; house, Woodmansterne Road, for Messrs. G. Wood & Son; bungalow, Little Woodcote Lane, for Mr. S. H. Hitchings; house, Bramley Avenue, for Mr. C. Herbert; house, Green Lane, for Mr. W. R. Roach; house, Brighton Road, for Capt. F. C. Hutt.

DOVER.—Extensive improvements are proposed by the Southern Railway, the following being an outline of the general scheme proposed to be carried out at Dover: (1) the rebuilding of the Priory Station and removal of the engine depot to a point adjacent to the Marine Station, (2) the closing and demolition of the Harbour Station, (3) improvement in the lay-out of the line in the vicinity of Archcliffe Fort so as to provide a double set of metals between that point and the Marine Station, (4) the provision of a new goods yard on land adjoining the railway between Archcliffe Fort and the Harbour Station, and (5) the diversion of the public road now situated between the company's goods yard and the block yard to the sea side of the latter.—It is proposed to invite tenders for heating the town hall and other buildings at an estimated cost of £3,000, and leading specialist firms are to be invited to submit competitive schemes.—The Ministry of Transport has promised favourable consideration towards the scheme for widening the Dover-Folkestone road.

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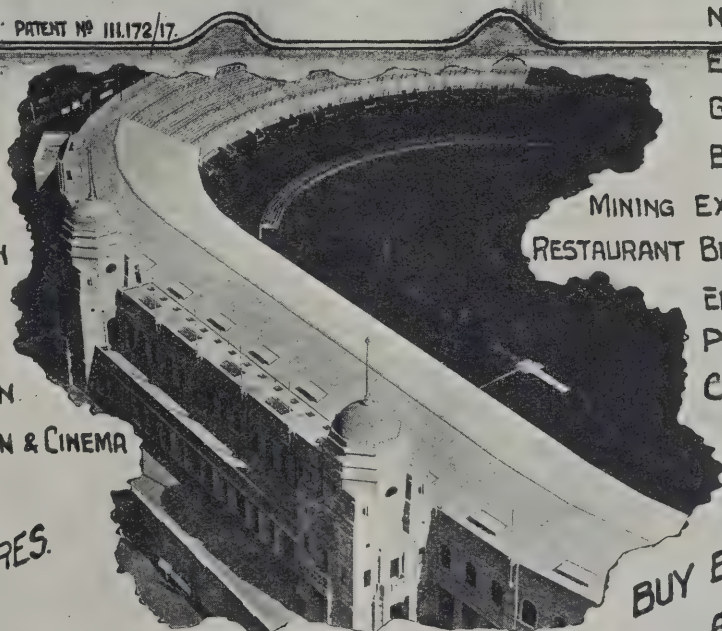
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ESHER.—The Urban District Council are proceeding with a housing scheme. The houses are to be of concrete owing to the shortage of bricks.—Plans passed: House, Imber Grove, for Messrs. Lanchester; three houses, Sugden Road, for Mr. S. Stokes; house, Weston Green Road, for Messrs. Grove & Williamson; two houses, Queen's Drive, for Mr. G. A. Fortesque; house, Broom Hill, for Messrs. Imrie & Angel; house, West End, for Mr. Thirtle.

EXETER.—A site in an isolated but accessible position has been purchased by the County Council for the erection of a small-pox hospital at a total cost of £3,000. A town planning scheme extending beyond the city boundaries is under consideration.

GUILDFORD.—Plans passed by Town Council: Additions and alterations, Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, submitted by Mr. F. J. Hodgson, 36 High Street; bungalow, Wodeland Avenue, submitted by Mr. Frank Leeks; bungalow, off Aldershot Road, Mr. George Sharp, 13 Lower Manor Road, Farncombe; bungalow, Grange Road, submitted by Mr. W. Penfold, Silverdale, Manor Road, Stoughton; house, pit Farm Road, submitted by Messrs. J. M. Rutter & Co., Woodbridge Road; pair of semi-detached houses, Josephs Road, submitted by Mr. Thos. Dyer, 50, High Street; tennis pavilion, Glebe House Estate, submitted by Messrs. Rutter & Co.; detached house, Stoke Road, submitted by Mr. W. Sheppard, Ridgemount; additions and alterations, Messrs. Angel & Co.'s premises, 23 Woodbridge Road, submitted by Messrs. Clemence & Co.; additions and alterations, Sainsbury's, 143 High Street, submitted by Messrs. Norris & Shattock; house, London Road, submitted by Messrs. Norris & Shattock; house, Weston Road, submitted by Messrs. Hodgson, Lunn & Co.; house, Aldershot Road, submitted by Messrs. Hodgson, Lunn & Co.—The borough surveyor has submitted detailed plans and estimates for the erection of additional houses on the Council's vacant land in Cline Road, and he estimated the cost at £475 per house. The plans and estimates were approved, and the Town Clerk instructed to advertise for tenders for the erection of ten pairs of non-parlour houses.

HACKNEY.—The Borough Council is to provide new plant at a cost of £4,000 for the electricity station.—The following notices have been received: To build and drain surgical wards, operating theatre and mortuary at the Maternity Hospital, on site of Nos. 153 to 163 Lower Clapton Road, A. Gordon; to make structural alterations and build addition and to execute drainage work at the shop premises, No. 406 Mare Street, Aerated Bread Co., Ltd.; to build and drain a Primitive Methodist Church and schools on the northern side of Ravensdale Road, between Turnpike House and No. 17 Ravensdale Road, G. Baines & Son.

HAWKMOOR.—Proposals have been submitted to the Ministry of Health by the Devon County Council for extending the accommodation at the sanatorium by providing additional accommodation for 32 children at an estimated cost of £7,787.

ILFRACOMBE.—The secondary school is to be extended by an additional classroom, new cloakrooms, and kitchen and dining accommodation at a cost of £2,050.

LLANDUDNO.—Mr. G. A. Humphreys has explained to the Town Council the proposals for the development of the Mostyn Estate under a town planning scheme, and the surveyor has been asked to prepare a town planning scheme for the whole of the town.—The Ministry of Transport have promised favourable consideration to the proposed road to Deganwy.—Plans have been passed for additions to the College Hospital.—The surveyor is to prepare sketch plans for the erection of houses on the Mowbray Road and Knowles Road sites.

NEWBURY.—The Corporation have passed plans for a house in Buckingham Road for Mr. E. J. Belgrave, and a house in Andover Road for Mr. L. H. Simmons.

PARK PREWETT (HANTS).—The Joint Hospitals Committee have prepared plans for cowsheds and piggeries at the mental hospital, at an estimated cost of £4,000. Plans are to be prepared for a house on the estate for the senior assistant medical officer.

PENRITH.—The surveyor of the Urban District Council has been asked to prepare plans and estimates for a maternity home.—Plans passed alterations and additions to the Wool Pack Inn, Burrogate, for Messrs. Whitwell, Mark & Co.—Bungalow, Fell Lane, for Mr. Wm. Priestman.—The Rural District Council have under consideration a water scheme involving an outlay of £3,000.

PRESTWICH.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned loans of £5,274 for street and sewer works.—The Urban Council are negotiating with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners regarding the continuation of a road across the Rectory Estate, which is to be developed.—Schemes are being considered for the provision of public conveniences.—A letter from Messrs. Wm. Grimshaw &

Sons with reference to the development of "The Hays" has been referred to the Town Planning Committee.—Plans passed by Council: Six houses, Bland Road and Circular Road, for W. Sykes; two houses, Mildred Avenue, for Mr. H. Richardson; five houses, Holyrood Street, for Miss N. A. Jones; six houses, Woodland Crescent, for Messrs. Knowles & White; eight houses, York Drive, for Mr. G. F. Darbyshire; semi-detached houses, off Carlton Drive, for Mr. J. W. Davies; houses on Park Road and Singleton Lodge Estate, for Building Estates, Ltd.; villas, York Drive, for Mr. J. Buckley; two pairs of villas, York Drive, for Mr. J. Buckley.

STREATHAM.—The London County Council has prepared particulars and map relating to a town planning scheme which the County Council propose to prepare in respect of land (approximately 20 acres) between Streatham Common South and the county boundary. The draft scheme provides for the formation of new roads 45 feet and 40 feet wide respectively out of Streatham Common South and Copley Park, Streatham, and for the widening of the part of Streatham Common South between the western boundary of the estate and the new road proposed to be formed, to conform with the forecourt line of existing buildings in Streatham Common South. With the view of preserving the amenities of The Rookery, Streatham Common, the land (about 5 acres in extent) between The Rookery and the county boundary is to be reserved as a public open space.

TEDDINGTON.—The Middlesex County Council have decided to erect an elementary school in St. Mark's Road for 400 children.

TORQUAY.—Plans have now been approved by the Ministry of Health for the erection of buildings for the accommodation of nurses at the Whitecliff hospital. The purchase of "Torville" is recommended at a cost of £4,000, and also of adjoining land for the erection of a technical school, and also for the eventual extension of the secondary school.

TOTNES.—A new secondary school for girls is to be built at a cost of £8,500 on a site which the County Council purchased two years ago.

TRURO.—The City Council are seeking power to borrow £6,000 for the purpose of the scheme for converting the existing market buildings into a civic hall for public purposes. Messrs. Thorneley & Rooke, the architects, have stated that a period of three months will be needed to prepare the plans, specification, etc., and to obtain tenders. The City Council suggest that the Ministry should allow provisional tenders to be invited prior to the official inquiry, in order that there may be no unnecessary delay.—Negotiations are taking place with the County Council regarding proposed works at Lemonbridge.—The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a housing scheme in Newman Road at a cost of £7,850, and sanction is being sought for permission to erect a further eight non-parlour houses.—The Town Clerk is communicating with the G.W.R. Public Building Society regarding the erection of houses for railway men.—The City Council are selling 89 plots to private builders.

UPTON PYNE.—Plans for a new smallpox hospital, to cost about £3,000, have been prepared by the Devon County Council.

UXBRIDGE.—The Urban District Council are considering the provision of plant for supplying hot water to the slipper baths.—The tender of the Indented Bar and Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd. (£4,879), is recommended for the construction of a reservoir.—The Council has agreed on a site at the junction of St. Andrew's Road and Park Road for the war memorial.—Plans have been passed for additions to the factory of the Bell Punch and Printing Co., Ltd.

WILLESDEN.—The Urban District Council propose a scheme for the formation of a full-size football pitch and running track of four laps to the mile in King Edward Recreation Ground at an estimated cost of £4,600.—Plans passed: Five houses and one garage, Nos. 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, Holland Road, Harlesden, by Messrs. Done, Hunter & Co.; six houses with motor garages to each, Mount Pleasant Road, Brondesbury, by Mr. G. A. Sexton; two houses with garages to each, Mount Pleasant Road, Brondesbury, by Mr. C. W. B. Simmonds; ten houses with garages to two houses, North Way, Neasden, by Mr. S. Moss; two cooling towers, Acton Lane, Harlesden, by and for the Metropolitan Electric Supply Co., Ltd.; four houses in Oxgate Gardens, Cricklewood, for Mr. F. W. Brealy; alterations to bank, No. 62, High Street, Harlesden, by Messrs. Whinney, Son & Austen Hall, architects; forty-eight dwelling houses, Ellesmere Road, Dudden Hill, by and for Messrs. Pearce & Taylor.—The surveyor has prepared plans and estimates for an alternative scheme for the rebuilding of Kingsbury Hospital to provide for 32 beds, at an estimated cost of £8,390.—The engineer has been instructed to prepare a scheme for the replacement of fire plugs by hydrants at an estimated cost of £2,500 to £3,000. The tender of Messrs. White & Anstey (£351) is recommended for repairs at the High Road clinic.

The ARCHITECT

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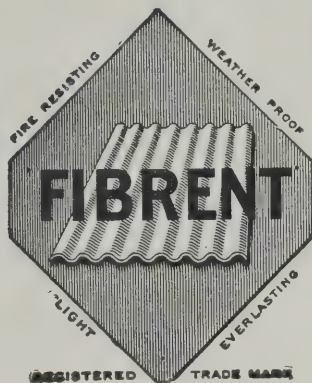
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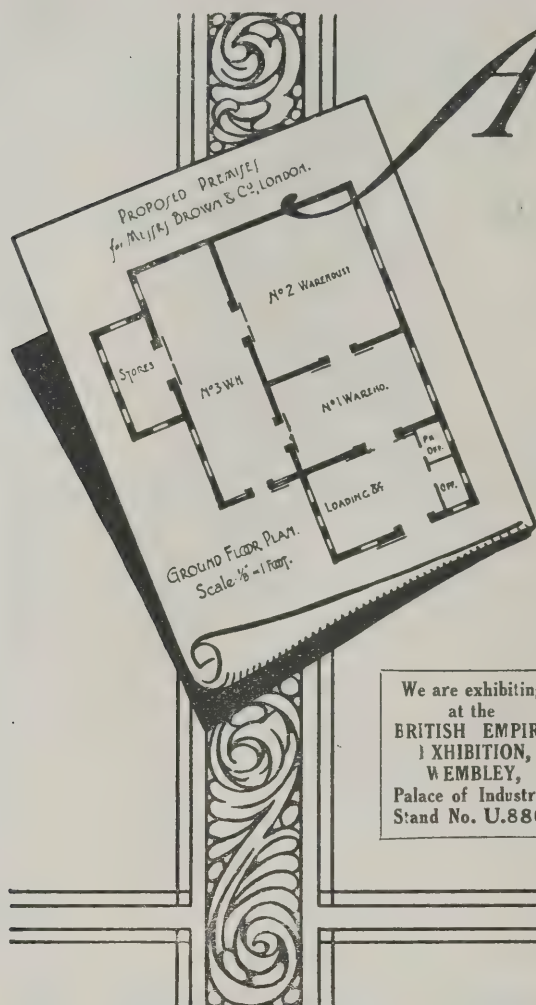
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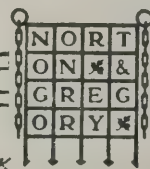
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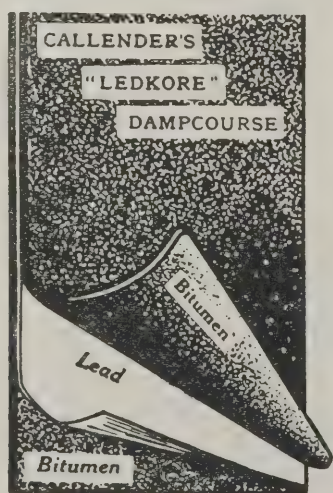
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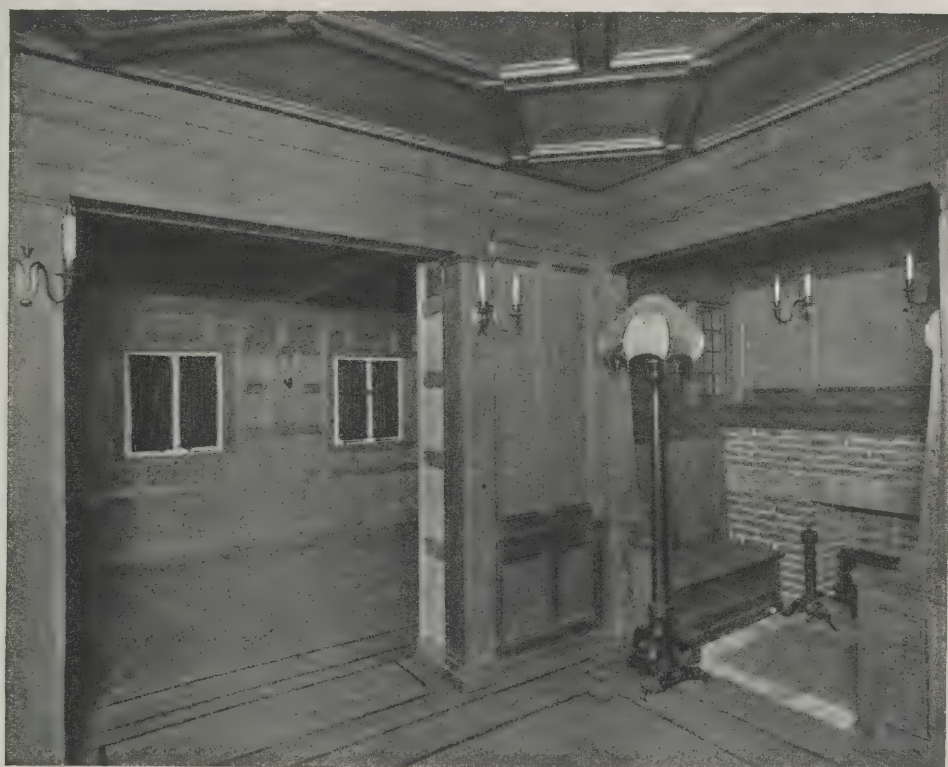
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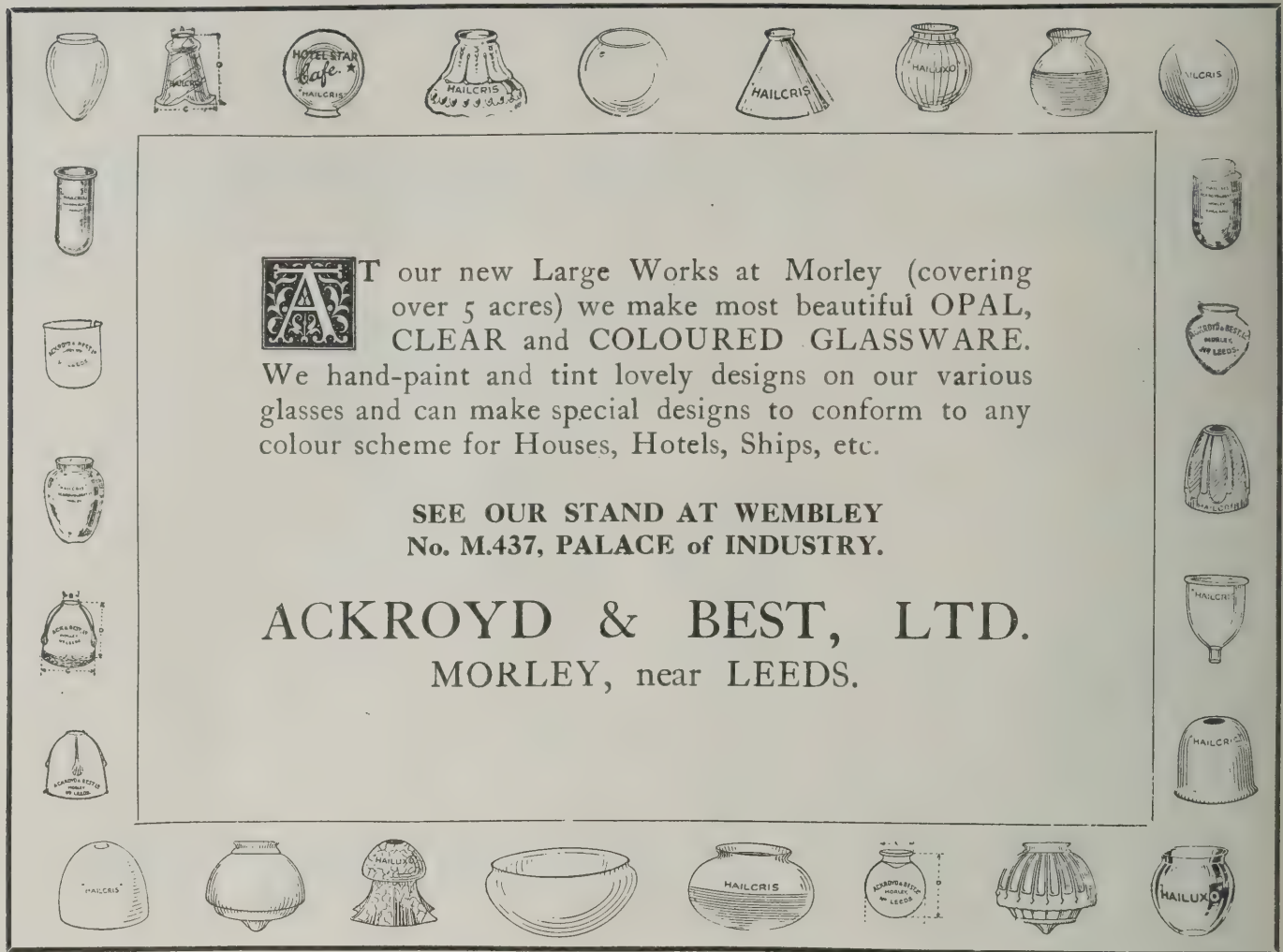
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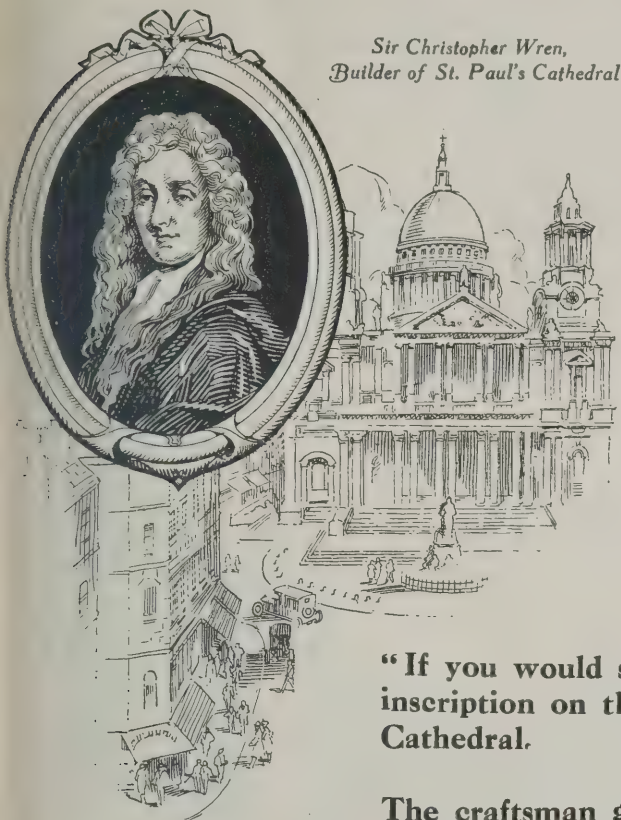
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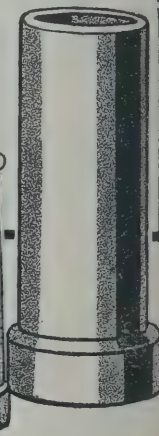
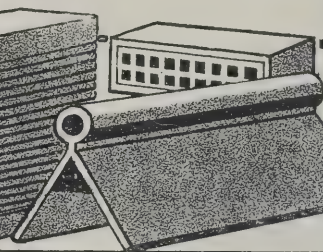
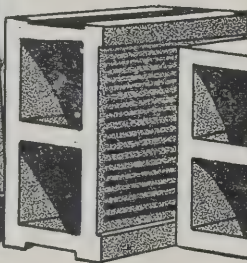
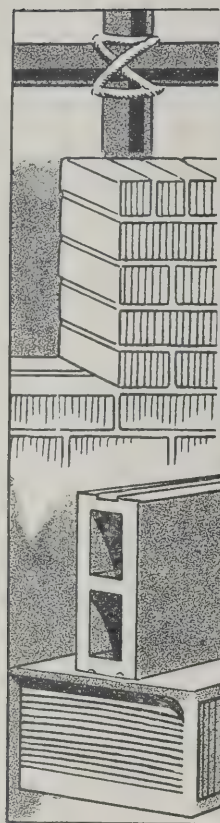
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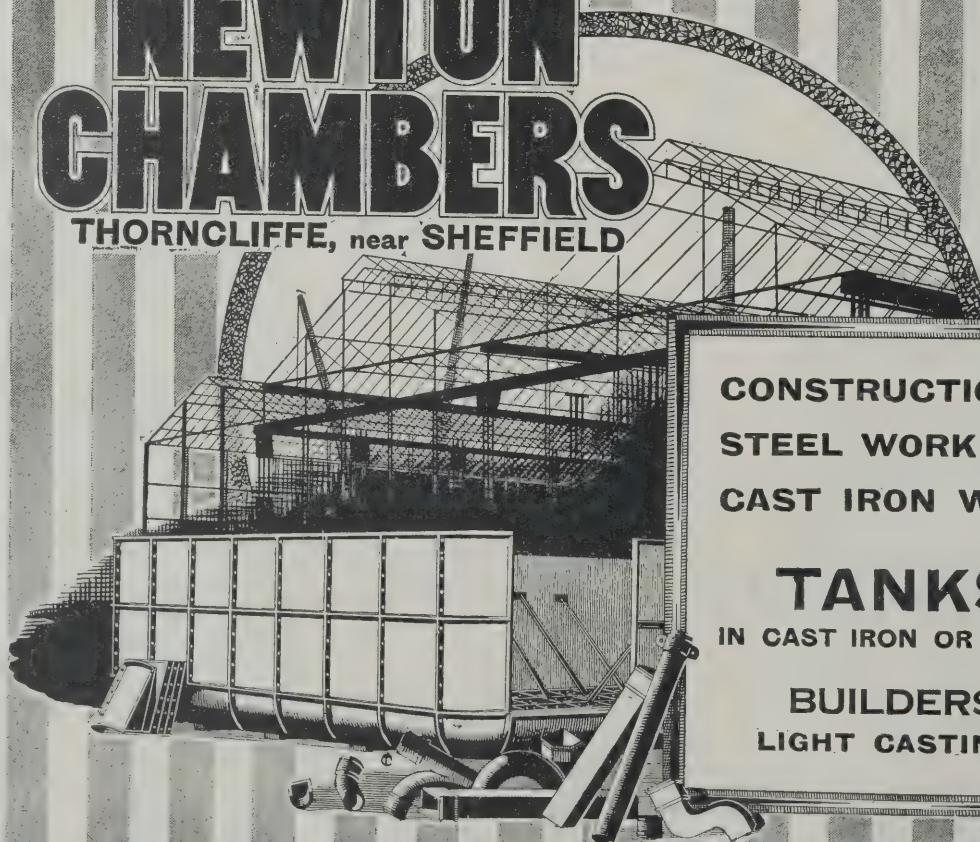
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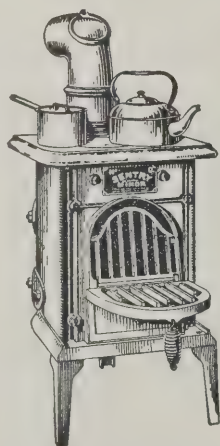
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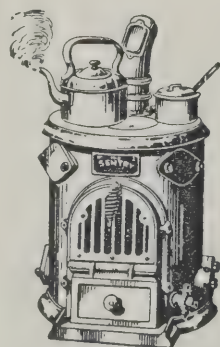
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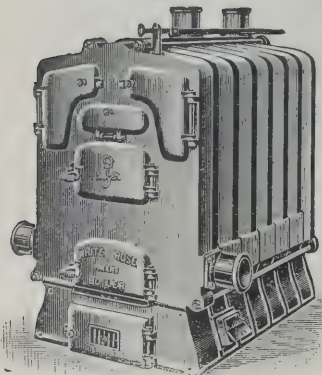
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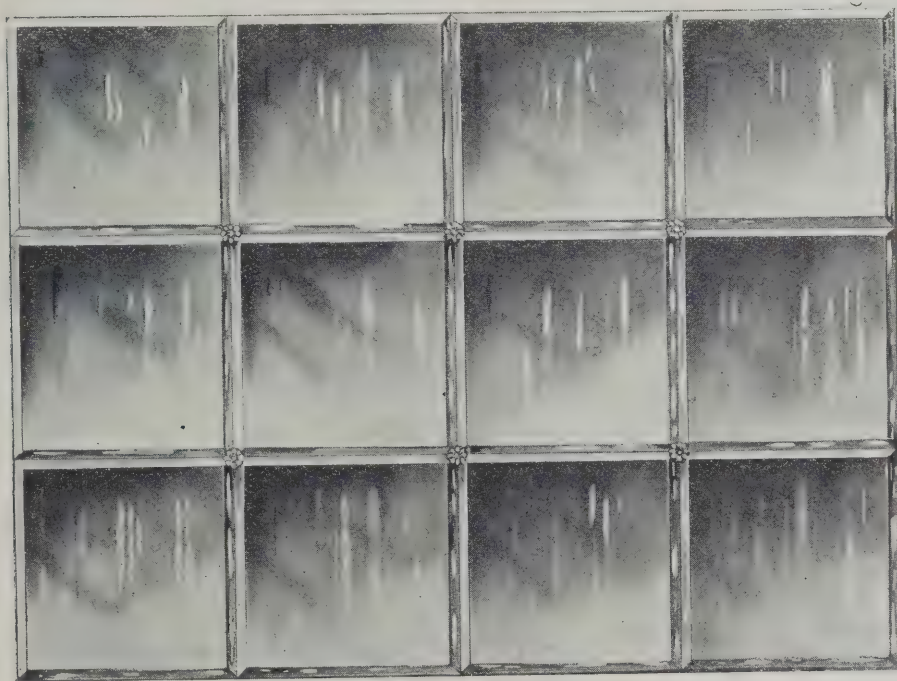
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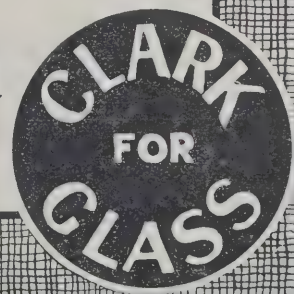
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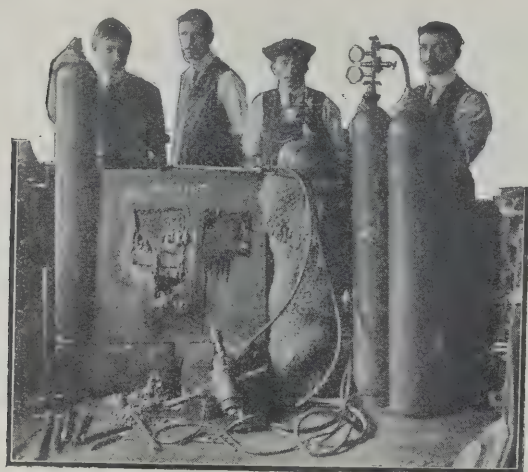
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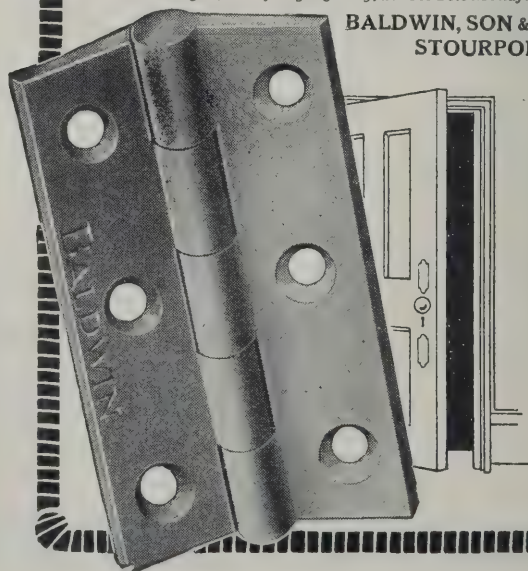
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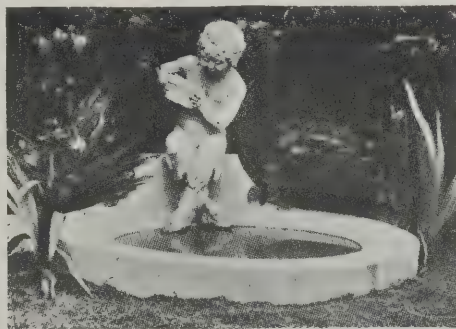


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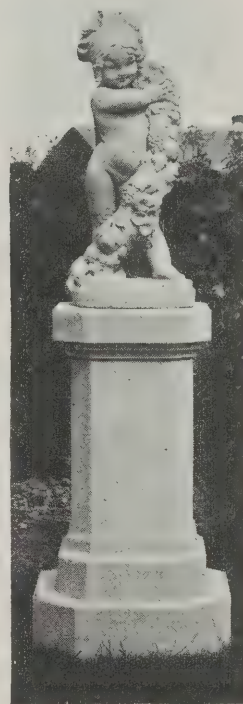
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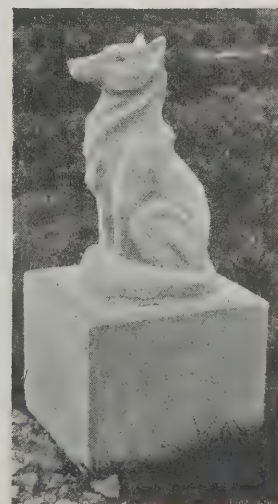
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FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1924.

Owing to the increasing demand for back numbers we are compelled to give the following notice:—

All numbers for the past twelve months 9d. each, previous to that date 1s. each.

TENDERS, &c.

*** *As great disappointment is frequently expressed at the non-appearance of Contracts Open, Tenders, &c., it is particularly requested that information of this description be forwarded to the Office, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C., not later than 2 P.M. on Wednesdays.*

CONTRACTS OPEN.

BETHNAL GREEN.—July 8.—For the supply and installation of radiators and piping in connection therewith, in the dining hall of the Institution, Waterloo House, Waterloo Road, E.2. A copy of the specification and the plan can be inspected at the administrative offices, Bishop's Road, E.2. A form of tender and specification will be supplied upon deposit of £1.

BRADFORD.—July 12.—For (1) erection of 10 Class A houses and 18 Class B houses, Housing Scheme No. 10, Thornton; (2) erection of 52 Class A houses and 8 Class A2 houses, Housing Scheme No. 11, Swain House Estate; (3) electric lighting installation to 302 houses on various sites in the city. General conditions of contract may be seen and specifications and forms of tender obtained on application to the City Architect, Town Hall, Bradford.

CARDIFF.—July 1.—For erection of 20 sets of firemen's quarters and other works at the Central Fire Station, Cardiff. The new buildings consist of six storeys and are largely of ferro-concrete construction. Plans, specifications and general conditions of contract may be seen and bills of quantities obtained at the office of the architect, Mr. T. P. Frank, F.S.I., city architect, City Hall, Cardiff, on production of a receipt from the City Treasurer for a deposit of £2 2s.

CHELTENHAM.—For redecorating certain schools during the month of August, and also for reasphalting boys' playground at the Central School. Builders wishing to tender for the work should send their names to the architect, Mr. L. W. Barnard, F.R.I.B.A., Promenade, Cheltenham, and specifications will be forwarded in due course.

CHESHIRE.—For the erection of house, stables, lodge, and entrance gates at Pedley, Adlington, Cheshire. Specifications, quantities, etc., may be obtained from H. S. Grimshaw, architect, Willow Street, Accrington, upon payment of a guinea.

CROSBY.—July 4.—Builders desirous of tendering for the erection of part of a new school to be built at Crosby, near Scunthorpe, must make application to Messrs. Scorer and Gamble, architects, Bank Street Chambers, Lincoln, not later than July 4, and must deposit £2 2s. Quantities will be sent out on or about July 7, and tenders will be returnable on July 17.

DEVIZES.—July 1.—For the erection of the following cottages:—At Stanton St. Bernard, two pairs; at West Lavington (Littleton Panell), two pairs. Plans, specifications, and forms of tender may be obtained from Mr. T. V. Trumper, building surveyor, 2, Pretoria Villas, Bath Road, Devizes.

DUBLIN.—July 7.—For materials to be supplied and work to be done at the Central Fire Station, Tara Street, Dublin, in accordance with the specification and conditions of contract prepared by the City Architect. Copies of the specification, drawing, and conditions of contract may be obtained from the City Treasurer at his office, Exchange Buildings, Lord Edward Street, Dublin, on lodgment of £1. In the event of a tender being accepted, the contractor will be required to enter into a contract under seal with the Corporation.

ENFIELD.—July 3.—For the erection of 103 houses in various parts of the district as follows:—Albany Road, three; Baker Street, 42; Beaconsfield Road, seven; Eastfield Road, 30; Elmore Road, five; Glenville Avenue, 16; Conditions of contract, specification of works and drawings may be seen, and

form of tender obtained, on application to the surveyor, Mr. H. R. Crabb, A.R.I.B.A., Public Offices, Enfield. If desired, a copy of the specification and a print of the plans may be obtained on payment of £2 2s.

EVESHAM.—June 28—July 17.—For erection of a new infants' school building, to accommodate 160 children at Merstow Green, Evesham. Bills of quantities will be supplied on receipt of a deposit of £2 2s. Plans and specification may be inspected at the office of Mr. H. E. Dicks, architect, 1, Market Place, Evesham.

GREENOCK.—June 30.—For the following works, required in 29 tenements (174 houses) proposed to be erected on Sinclair Street site, viz.:—(1) Electric lighting; (2) painter work; (3) gas main supply pipes; (4) iron boundary fencing. Plans can be seen and schedules of quantities may be obtained at the Office of Public Works, Municipal Buildings.

HAMPTON.—July 7.—For erection and completion of 31 houses on the Priory Road site, Hampton. Contractors may tender for one block, series of blocks, or the whole number of houses. Forms of tenders, conditions, specifications and other particulars may be obtained of Mr. S. H. Chambers, surveyor, Public Offices, Hampton, upon payment of a deposit of £2 2s., and in the case of an accepted tender, after execution of the contract and bond required, and failing such execution the deposit will be forfeited to the Council.

HINDLEY.—June 30.—For the painting of the inside and outside of the Hospital, Sandy Lane, Hindley. Specifications may be obtained on application to Mr. O. P. Abbott, surveyor, Council Offices, Hindley.

LALEHAM, NEAR STAINES.—July 7.—For erection of two five-roomed cottages of similar design, with the construction of the necessary drains, etc., both in the parish of Laleham, near Staines; also for the construction near one of the cottages of the superstructure only of a house (approximately 28 feet by 14 feet by 13 feet high to roof plate) for containing Venturi meter recorders, for the Metropolitan Water Board. Drawings may be inspected without payment of fee at the offices of the Board, Chief Engineer's Department (Room 201), New River Head, Rosebery Avenue, Clerkenwell, E.C.1. Form of tender, conditions of contract, specification and schedule of prices, together with drawings, may be obtained on production of an official receipt for £5, which sum must be deposited with the Accountant to the Board. Cheques must be made payable to the "Metropolitan Water Board," and not to individuals.

LAMBETH.—July 2.—For erection of some or all of 86 dwellings to be built on the Bloomfield estate, Central Hill, West Norwood, consisting of 66 non-parlour-type houses, 12 parlour-type and eight flats. Drawings, specifications and general conditions may be seen during office hours at the office of the borough engineer, Mr. O. Cattlin, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M. and Cy.E., Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, S.W.2. Bills of quantities and form of tender will be supplied by the Town Clerk on receipt of a deposit of £3 3s.

LIVERPOOL.—July 9.—For proposed new public baths and washhouses, Minshull Street, Low Hill, Liverpool, in accordance with plans which may be seen at the office of the Land Steward and Surveyor, Municipal Buildings, from whom form of tender and quantities may be obtained.

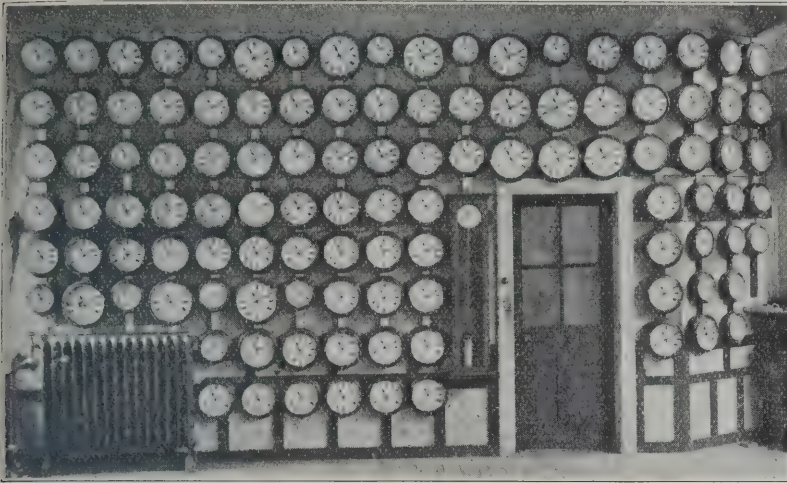
LONDON, FRANCE.—July 5.—The Imperial War Graves Commission are prepared to receive the names of builders and contractors who are willing to tender for the construction of approximately 33 cemeteries in France. Application for tender documents, which should be accompanied by a deposit of 15 guineas, Contract 1924 "U," Secretary, Works Department, Imperial War Graves Commission, 82, Baker Street, London, W.1.

MARSH.—July 7.—For the various trades required in the erection of a residence in Thornhill Road. Plans may be seen and bills of quantities obtained from Joe Ainley, architect and surveyor, 3, Chapel Hill, Huddersfield.

NEWTOWN.—July 5.—For the erection of 16 houses on a site in Canal Road from plans prepared by the architect to the Welsh Town Planning and Housing Trust, Ltd. Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained on early application to the local architect, Mr. Stanley Hill, Severn Square, Newtown, for a deposit of two guineas.

TORPOINT.—To builders and contractors. Tenders are invited for building new café, shop, etc., on owner's foundations. Plans, specifications, etc., can be seen at No. 1, Hillsborough Terrace, Torpoint, Cornwall.

TRURO.—July 5.—For the erection and completion of a bungalow at Daniell Road, Truro, according to plans and specifications, which may be obtained on application, in writing, to Alfred J. Cornelius, F.S.Arc., architect, Truro.



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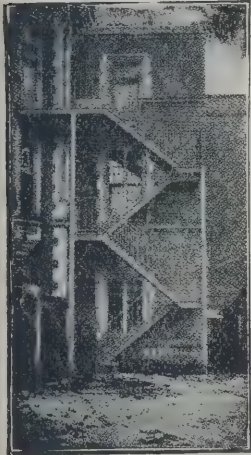
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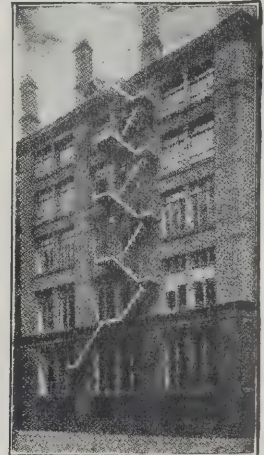
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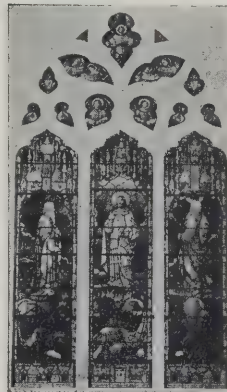
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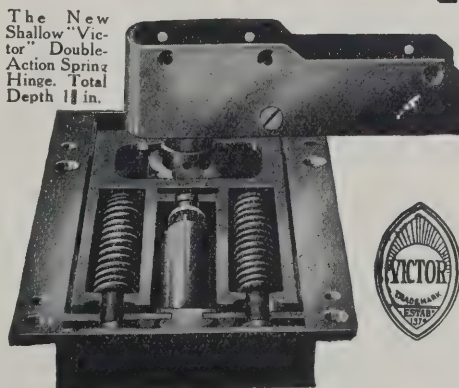
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Add for every additional 100 feet in area	3/9
Add for every additional storey in height	7/6
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Allow for supervision of plastering	7/6
Allow for filling in trenches within three feet of a building	7/6
Allow for licences in respect of hoardings, &c., within the City of London, as Regulations	say £10
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Hoardings complete	Per Foot Run 5/0
Planked gangway with handrail complete	4/0
Proper gantry complete	40/0
Sleeper roadways	8/0
Needling, strutting or shoring, including all labours and use and waste in erection and removal	Per Foot Cube 5/0
Pull down brickwork	Per Ft. Super reduced— In small quantities 6d. In considerable quantities 2d.
Add, if in very small quantities not exceeding 21 ft. ...	3d.
Add for filling baskets with debris and running same out to carts	1½d. 1½d.
Add if debris has to be raised or lowered to ground level	2d. Usually dropped
Add for cartage when same costs 4/6 per 1½ yard load	2½d. 2½d.
Clean and stack old bricks	20/0 per thousand
Hack off old plaster	1/0 per sq. yd.

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Excavate in common soil, wheel, fill carts and cart away	9/6	11/0	8d.
Planking and strutting	4d. per foot super.		
Planking, strutting and shoring	1/0	"	"
Portland cement and ballast	1 to 6.	1. 2. 4.	Holisting
Concrete in foundations	30/0	40/0.	2/6
Add if in ground floors	2/0	2/10	2/6
Add if in beams or lintels	3/0	4/0	2/6
Tested stoneware drains jointed in cement or standard iron drains jointed in lead, per foot run	1/8	2/6	2/7 3/11
Extra only for bends, each	2/6	3/6	11/6 20/0
Ditto, for junctions, each	3/0	4/3	19/0 35/0
Gullies, including concrete surround and iron grating, each	15/0	17/6	45/0 60/0

BRICKWORK (Exclusive of Pointing).

Built in 1 to 3 lime mortar	Flettons 545/-	Stocks 720/-	Blues 956/-
" " cement mortar	571/-	747/-	983/-
Damp course	Per Foot Super. Horizontal 10d. Vertical 1/3		
Two courses of slates in cement ½-in. asphalt	9d.		1/0
Facings	Per Foot Super. Flemish bond English bond		
Allow for every 5s. additional cost of the facing bricks over the common brick basis	½d.	½d. plus 10 %	
Pointing (exclusive of scaffolding)	Per Ft. Super.		
Weather joint in cement	2½d.		
Flat joint in cement (struck) and lime whitening	1½d.		

ARCHES.

Extra over common brickwork	Per Ft. Super
In half-brick rings of bricks of same class as common brickwork	1/0
Add if of superior bricks for every 7/6 per thousand additional cost	1d.
In rubbed and gauged arches with fine joints	6/0
Quoins, angles, copings and sills of superior bricks	Per Ft. Run
Allow for every 5s. per thousand additional cost of bricks over the common basis price	½d. plus 10 %
Double-tile creasing and cement fillets and pointing to 9-in. wall	1/2

PAVIOR.

	1in.	1½in.	2in.	3in.
Cement and sand	3/0	3/5	3/10	4/8
Granolithic	3/6	4/0	4/7	5/8
Asphalte	8/6	—	—	—
Tarmac	—	—	5/6	7/0

MASON.

	Per Foot Cube		
	Templates	Thresholds	Sills
York stone and all labours and mortar in holst- ing and fixing	12/0	16/0	22/0
Artificial stone	9/0	8/0	11/0
Portland stone and all labours of usual character	—	—	To Elevation generally 20/0
Bath stone ditto	—	—	10/0

CARPENTER.

Flat boarded centreing, per yard super.	5/0
Centreing to beams, per yard super.	7/6
Centres to arches, per foot super.	2/0
Fir framed in carpenter's work per ft. cube	Plates 4/0 Floor 6/0 Roofs 5/10 Trusses 8/0
At per square	½in. 1in. 1½in.
Deal close boarding	31/0 38/0 48/0
Battening for slates	10/0 11/0 12/0
Roofing felt lapped and laid	12/0 to 20/0
Gutter boards and bearers per foot super.	1/0

JOINER.

Per square	½in. 1in. 1½in.
Deal plain-edged flooring	33/0 40/0 50/0
Deal tongued and grooved flooring	37/0 45/0 56/0
Deal matching	36/0 43/0 46/6 58/6
Sashes, per foot super.	1½in. 2in.
Deal moulded sashes, divided in squares	1/10 2/0
Windows, per foot super.	Very Small Small Normal Large
Deal cased frames, 1in. linings, 1½in. pulley styles, 2in. sashes in squares, oak sill, double hung with pulleys, lines and weights	11/0 5/0 3/6 3/0
Doors, per foot super.	2 4 4 6
Square frame both sides doors	2/0 2/3 2/5 2/8
Add for each side moulded	2½d. 3½d. 4d. 4½d.
Add for each side bead butt	4d. 4½d. 5d.
Doors of hardwood, such as oak or mahogany, will cost three times as much exclu- sive of polishing.	
Staircase.	
1½ Deal tread, 1in. riser, fixed complete per foot super.	2/6
2in. Deal strings, per foot super.	2/0
Housing steps to strings, each	9d.

	Per Foot Cube		
	Very Small Small Large		
Mahogany French-polished handrail	87/0 69/0 53/0		
Add if ramped	120/0 100/0 80/0		
Add if wreathed	240/0 200/0 160/0		
Deal balusters, housed each end, each	1½in. 1½in.		
	1/3 1/5		
Deal newels, per foot run	3 by 3 3½ by 3½ 4 by 4		
	1/2 1/6 1/9		
Deal Super. Sundries	1in. 1½in. 1½in.		
Deal shelves or divisions	1/0 1/2 1/4		
Deal shelves cross-tongued	1/2 1/4 1/6		

Shelves, in oak or mahogany = 3 times value of deal, exclusive of polishing.
Deal skirtings, moulded and backings and grounds 1/4 1/6 1/8
Deal jamb linings, rebated and framed and backings 1/5 1/7 1/9
Skirtings and linings, in oak or mahogany = 2½ times value of deal, exclusive of
polishing.

	Sectional Area		
	1in. 2in. 4in. 6in. 9in. 12in. 14in. 16in.		
Fillets, rails and frames.	Per foot run		
Deal, wrot and fixed	2d. 3d. 4½d. 5½d. 8d. 10½d. 11½d. 1/1½		
Deal, wrot, fixed and moulded	2½d. 3½d. 5d. 6½d. 9d. 11½d. 1/0½ 1/2½		
Deal, wrot, moulded, rebated, framed and fixed	— — 6½d. 8d. 10d. 1/0½ 1/1½ 1/3½		
Fillets, mouldings and frames in oak or mahogany will cost 3 times their value in deal, exclusive of polishing.			

CIRCULAR WORK : Add to the price of similar straight work one-third for every
eighth of an inch rise on a foot chord line.

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	Groove or Bead	Staff Bead or Nosing	Moulding per lin. Girth	Rounded Heel or Hollow or Plugging
Labour only to	1d.	1d.	1d.	2d.

Barrel Bolts	Flush Bolts	Sash Fasteners	Labour and Screws only Fixing (Locks and Furniture)			Casement Fasteners		Grip Handles	Spring Catches
1/0	2/0	1/0	Rim	Mortice	Cupboard	Stays	1/0	1/0	1/0
			2/0	4/0	1/3				

PLUMBER

	PER CWT.		
Milled lead and laying	Soakers 54/0	Flats 60/6	Flashings and Gutters 64/0

Per Foot Run		Each	
Copper Nailing	Soldered Angle	Welded Joint	Bossed Ends to Rolls
4d.	2/0	4d.	6d.
			Cesspools
			5/6
			Soldered Dots
			2/0

			Per Foot Run						
			1in.	2in.	1in.	1 1/2in.	2in.	3 1/2in.	4in.
Lead service	--	--	1/4	1/8	2/2	2/9	3/1	3/10	—
Lead waste	--	--	1/0	1/4	1/7	1/10	2/2	2/8	—
Lead soil	--	--	—	—	—	—	—	5/1	5/8

						Each			
Egg joints	2/3	2/6	2/9	3/0	3/3	3/9	6/0	6/6	
Branch joints	2/6	2/9	3/0	3/3	3/6	4/0	6/6	7/0	
Indiarubber joints	—	—	—	3/0	3/0	—	—	—	
Stop ends	9d.	1/0	1/3	1/9	2/0	2/6	—	—	
Bends	—	—	—	—	2/0	2/6	5/6	6/3	
Beaded ends	—	—	—	10d.	10d.	1/0	—	—	
Single tacks	—	—	11d.	1/0	1/1	1/5	2/0	2/3	
Double tacks	—	—	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/8	2/7	3/1	
Brass sleeves	—	—	—	—	7/8	8/8	13/2	14/8	
Lead traps	—	—	—	8/9	9/10	12/8	22/6	26/1	
Boiler screws	3/2	3/9	4/10	6/7	8/3	—	—	—	
Bib cocks	7/0	9/6	13/6	—	—	—	—	—	
Stop cocks	9/9	12/3	17/3	30/0	44/0	100/0	—	—	
Ball cocks	8/0	10/0	16/6	30/0	42/0	92/6	—	—	
Wire balloons	—	—	—	—	—	9d.	—	1/3	

						Per Foot Run	
						2in.	4in.
Iron (L.C.C.) pipes	..	..	..	..	..
Soil, vent, waste and caulked joints	and	anti-syphon	pipes,	coated	lead	2/0	3/0
Extra for bends	each	7/5	11/2
Extra for junctions	each	11/11	18/4

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SLATER		TILER.	
ROOFING			
		Per Square	
		Countess	Ladies
Welsh slating laid to a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. lap with two position nails	to each slate	80/0	72/0
Add for every $\frac{1}{2}$ in. additional lap		2/3	3/7
Add for copper nails		2/8	3/4
Best selected green Westmorland slates laid to a 3in. lap, with copper nails			132/0
Asbestos slates laid to a 3in. lap, with compo. nails			41/0
Asbestos corrugated roofing with galv. screws and limpet washers			60/0
Plain red roof tiling 4in. gauge, each tile in every fourth course nailed with two galv. iron nails			70/0
Add for vertical work			2/8
Add for circular on face in elevation			25%
Add for circular on plan, according to radius			40%
Add for circular on face in elevation and also on plan according to radius			66%

Cuttings—Eaves	—	—	—	—	—	—	Per Foot Run
Edges and abutments	—	—	—	—	—	—	Equal 1 foot super.
Ridge tiling	—	—	—	—	—	—	Equal $\frac{1}{2}$ foot super.
							2/0
Fixing soakers	—	—	—	—	—	—	7d. per dozen

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						Per Cwt.		
						Up to 1st Floor	Above 1st Floor	
Rolled steel joists	--	--	--	--	--	16/6	18/6	
Compound girders	--	--	--	--	--	19/6	21/6	
Stanchions	--	--	--	--	--	21/6	23/6	
Cast-iron columns	--	--	--	--	--	16/6	18/6	
						Light	Medium	Heavy
Steel roof trusses	--	--	--	--	--	32/6	30/0	27/6
Chimney bars	--	--	--	--	--	36/0	34/0	32/0
Tie rods and ring bolts	--	--	--	--	--	47/6	45/0	42/6
Bolts and nuts	--	--	--	--	--	45/0	40/0	35/0
Handrail and balusters	--	--	--	--	--	55/0	50/0	48/0
Steel reinforcing bars bent and fixed	--	--	--	--	--	22/0	21/6	21/0

					Per Foot Run		
					2in.	3in.	4in.
Rain-water Goods							
Pipes fixed with pipe nails	--	--	--	--	11d.	1/1	1/8
Bends or shoes, each	--	--	--	--	1/6	2/0	2/9
Junctions, each	--	--	--	--	2/3	3/0	4/0
					4in.	5in.	6in.
Gutters fixed with brackets	--	--	--	--	1/2d.	1/6	1/10
Outlets and angles	--	--	--	--	1/9	2/6	3/1
Stop ends	--	--	--	--	10d.	1/0	1/1





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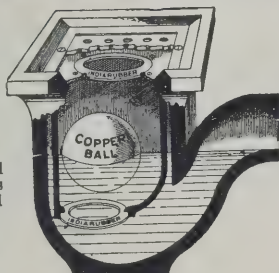
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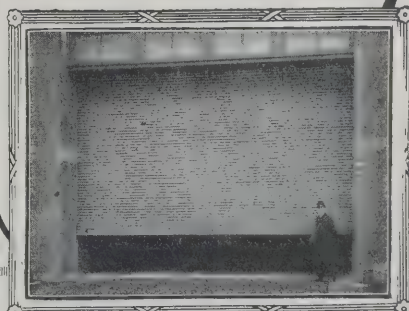
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	Gas		Per Foot Run						
	1in.	1½in.	2in.	2½in.	3in.	4in.	6in.	8in.	10in.
Tubes and all fittings fixed with clips complete ..	10d.	10½d.	1/1	1/4	1/8	2/1	2/5	3/2	

PLASTERER.

On Walls and Ceilings	Narrow		Per Foot Run			
	Per Widths	Per Foot	Super	Super	Super	Super
Render, float and set in lime and hair ..	2/3	0/5½	0/2	0/3	0/1½	0/6
Do. do. Siripite ..	2/9	0/5½	0/2	0/3	0/1½	0/6
Do. do. Portland ..	3/7	0/7	0/2½	0/3½	0/2	0/7
Do. do. Keene's ..	4/0	0/3	0/2½	0/3½	0/2	0/7
Sawn lathing ..	1/4	0/3	—	—	—	—
Metal lathing ..	1/9	0/3½	—	—	—	—
Screeding in Portland ..	2/0	0/4½	—	—	—	—

Per Foot Run	Per 1in. Girth	Mitres	Stop Ends
Moulding in plaster ..	0/2	Equal to Value	Equal to 1/3rd of
Do. do. Portland ..	0/3	of 1 foot of	a foot of
Do. do. fibrous ..	0/3	moulding	moulding

Partitions	Per Yard Super.		
Concrete slab partition fixed ready for plastering ..	2in.	2½in.	3in.
	5/0	5/6	6/0

GLAZING.

		Per Foot Super.		
		Up to 10ft.	From 25 to 50ft.	From 50 to 100ft.
Ordinary plate glass glazed ..		4/5	5/0	5/7

Sheet Glass, glazed complete, per foot super.		Sheet Glass	Figured	Cast Glass	Wired	Metal bar
21oz.	15oz.	10oz.	8oz.	6oz.	4oz.	3oz.
0/8½	0/6½	1/0½	0/7½	0/9	0/9½	1/1½

PAINTER AND DECORATOR.

Washable Distemper	Per Yard Super.			
	Wash and Stop	Once Distemper	Twice Distemper	Stipple
In common colours ..	0/3½	0/5	0/9	0/2
In carmine or ivy green or similar ..	0/3½	0/5½	0/10	0/2
In scarlet, ivy green, or similar ..	0/3½	0/7	1/1	0/2

Add per Yard Super. for the following					
If on Moulded Work 100%	If on Enriched Work 300%	If in Small Panels 0/3	In Party Colours Medium Panels 0/2	Large Panels 0/1	If on Narrow Widths 0/3

PAINTING.

Knot, Stop and Prime	Paint Coats				Stain	Size	Varnish	Enamel
	1	2	3	4				
Plain painting on surface in common colours, per yard super ..	0/8	0/7½	1/2	1/8	2/2	0/6	0/2	0/9
Do., on frames each ..	0/10	0/10	1/3	2/0	2/6	0/8	0/3	0/10
Do., on large do., each ..	1/0	1/0	1/6	2/6	3/2	0/10	0/4	1/1
Do., on squares, per doz. ..	2/0	2/0	3/0	5/0	6/3	1/8	0/8	2/2
Do., on large do., do. ..	3/0	3/0	4/6	7/6	9/6	2/6	1/0	3/3
On small pipes or narrow bands, per foot run ..	0/0½	0/0½	0/1	0/1½	0/1½	0/0½	0/0½	0/0½
On large pipes or do. do. ..	0/1	0/1	0/2	0/3	0/3½	0/0½	0/0½	0/1½

Add to the above prices for the following per yard super :—
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	Wax 6d.	French 1/0
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On stairs ..	1/10	2/9
On ceilings ..	1/7	2/5

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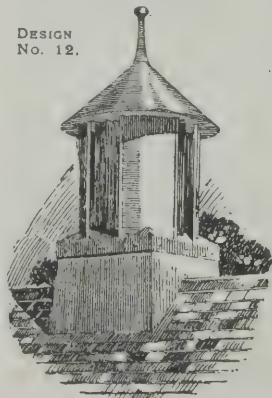
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1916-July	1/0½	10d.	9d.	Granite Mason, Fixing Mason, Spindle Machin't
1917-Apr. 23	1/1½	11d.	10d.	Four Cutter, ditto
1917-Oct. 20	1/1½	1/0½	11½d.	
1918-Jan. 11	1/3½+12½%	1/0½+12½%	11½+12½%	Plumber previous to 26 May 1923 only
1918-July 27	1/5+12½%	1/2½+12½%	1/1½+12½%	
1919-Feb. 15	1/9	1/6	1/5	Scaffolders, Timberman, Bender and Fixer of Reinforcement
1919-May 8	1/9	1/8	1/5	
1919-Nov. 15	1/11½	1/10½	1/8	
1920-May 1	2/0½	1/11½	1/9	
1920-May 29	2/0½	2/8	2/1	
1921-May 16	2/2	2/1	1/11	
1921-July 1	2/2	2/1	1/10	
1921-Aug. 1	2/1	2/0	1/9	
1921-Sept. 1	2/0½	1/11½	1/7½	
1922-Feb. 1	2/0	1/11	1/7	
1922-April 1	1/10	1/9	1/5	
1922-June 1	1/8	1/7	1/3	
1923-May 26	1/7½	1/6½	1/2½	
1924-Feb. 1	1/8	1/7	1/3	

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ITEM.	CLASS.	COST.	UNIT.
A Antisliphonage ..	Pipes, iron, 2"	3/0	Per yard
Asbestos ..	Sheeting ..	1/8	Ditto
Ditto ..	Ditto, corrugated ..	3/4	Ditto
Aluminium ..	Paint ..	25/0	Per gallon
B Ballast ..	Thames ..	10/0 13/6	Per yard cube
Ditto ..	Pit ..	10/0 13/6	delivered
Bell valves ..	Brass ..	5/6 7/9	13/4 each
Brick ..	Broken ..	10/6	Per yard
Ditto ..	Hardcore ..	5/0	cube d/d
Bricks ..	Blue, wirecut ..	140/0	
Ditto ..	Ditto, pressed ..	180/0	
Ditto ..	Firebricks ..	223/0	Per 1,000
Ditto ..	Fixing, breeze ..	80/0	F.O.R.
Ditto ..	Flettons ..	53/3	London
Ditto ..	Reds ..	110/0	
Ditto ..	Rubbers ..	244/0	
Ditto ..	Stocks ..	95/0	Delivered
Ditto ..	White ..	100/0	F.O.R. London
Ditto ..	White glazed ..	440/0	Per 1,000 F.O.R.
Ditto ..	Stretchers ..	430/0	London
Ditto ..	Ditto, headers ..	20/0	Per 1,000 less
Breeze ..	2nd quality ..	10/6	Per yard
Ditto ..	Coke ..	5/6	cube d/d
Ditto ..	Pan ..	5/6	
C Cartage ..	Of Bricks, blue ..	12/6	Per 1,000
Ditto ..	Of ditto, Flettons ..	9/0	from rail
Ditto ..	Of ditto, glazed ..	15/0	to job.
Cement ..	Keenes ..	105/0	Per ton
Ditto ..	Portland ..	53/0	delivered
Ditto ..	White, ditto ..	312/0	
Copper ..	Nails ..	1/4	Per lb.
Ditto ..	Sheeting ..	1/0	Ditto
Cocks ..	Bib, brass, stamped ..	4/0 6/0 9/0	Each
Ditto ..	Stop, brass, stamped ..	4/6 6/8 10/6	Ditto
D Drains, stoneware	Pipes and Fittings ..	22½%	F.O.R. London
Ditto ..	Standard list ..	22½%	Delivered
Ditto ..	Ditto ..	4" 7½" 6"	
Drains, iron	Pipes ..	5/6 8/7	Per yard
Driers ..	For paint ..	60/0	delivered
E Enamel ..	White, best ..	25/0	Per cwt.
F Felt ..	Roofing ..	9/10	Per cwt.
Fireclay ..	Stourbridge ..	2/3	Delivered, per square
Flooring ..	Deal, P.E. ..	1" 11" 26/0 33/0	Ditto, per cwt.
Ditto ..	Ditto, G. & T. ..	27/0 34/0	Per square delivered
G Gas ..	Tubes, Standard list ..	52½%	Delivered
Ditto ..	Fittings, ditto ..	52½%	Ditto
Ditto ..	Tubes, galvanised ..	37½%	
Glass cut to sizes	Plate not exceeding 1 foot sup.	1/6	
Ditto ..	Ditto 3 ditto ..	2/2½	
Ditto ..	Ditto 5 ditto ..	2/11	
Ditto ..	Ditto 7 ditto ..	3/4	
Ditto ..	Ditto 10 ditto ..	3/7	
Ditto ..	Ditto 25 ditto ..	3/9½	
Ditto ..	Ditto 100 ditto ..	4/7	
Ditto ..	Sheet, 15 oz. ..	3½d.	Per foot super
Ditto ..	Ditto 21 oz. ..	5½d.	at Merchant's depot
Ditto ..	Ditto 26 oz. ..	6½d.	
Ditto ..	Rough cast 1" ..	6½d.	
Ditto ..	Wired, cast ..	10½d.	
Ditto ..	Figured, rolled ..	8d.	
Ditto ..	Flemish or Arctic ..	8d.	
Ditto ..	Lead lights in plain sheet squares	2/0	
Gold leaf ..	English ..	2/9	Per book
Gold size ..	Best ..	12/6	Per gallon
Granite ..	Chippings ..	28/0	Delivered, per yard
Ditto ..	Ditto ..	22/6	Per ton

Prices of Building Material in London—Continued

ITEM.	CLASS.	COST.	UNIT.
H Hire ..	Horse, cart and man ..	25/0	Per day
Ditto ..	Lorry and driver ..	60/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	Steam roller ..	100/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	Water cart and men ..	3d.	Each
Hot water ..	Sacks ..	47½%	Delivered
Ditto ..	Tubes, Standard list ..	47½%	Ditto
Ditto ..	Fittings, ditto ..	31½%	Ditto
Ditto ..	Tubes, galvanised ..	31½%	Ditto
J Joists ..	Steel, rolled ..	260/0	Per ton delivered
Ditto ..	Wood, soft, 9" x 3" ..	4/0	Per foot cube
Ditto ..	Ditto, ditto, 7" x 2½" ..	3/2	delivered
Ditto ..	Ditto, ditto, 6" x 2" ..	3/0	
K Knotting ..	..	22/0	Per gallon
L Lathing ..	Metal ..	1/0	Per yard
Ditto ..	Wood, sawn ..	2/9	Per bundle
Lead ..	Sheet ..	42/6	Per cwt.
Ditto ..	Pipe ..	43/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	Soil ..	46/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	White ..	55/0	Ditto
Lime ..	Grey stone ..	51/8	Per ton
Ditto ..	Blue lias ..	58/6	Ditto
M Mahogany ..	Honduras ..	19/0	Ft. cube
Ditto ..	Cuba ..	26/0	Ditto
Matching ..	Deal, T. G. & B. ..	17/6 22/0 26/0	Per square delivered
N Nails ..	Brads, floor ..	22/9	Per cwt.
Ditto ..	Cut clasp ..	23/0	delivered
Ditto ..	Lath ..	31/0	
Ditto ..	Wire, oval ..	26/0	
O Oak ..	American ..	14/0	Per foot cube
Ditto ..	English ..	13/0	delivered
Ditto ..	European ..	21/0	
Ditto ..	Japanese ..	20/0	
Oil ..	Linseed, boiled ..	4/0	Per gall.
Ditto ..	Ditto, raw ..	4/3	ditto
P Paint ..	Mixed ..	78/3 3"	Per cwt. d/d
Partitions ..	Breeze ..	2/0 2/7	Per yard sup. d/d
Plaster ..	Paris, coarse ..	70/0	Per ton
Ditto ..	Sirapite ..	70/0	delivered
Ditto ..	Slabs, ceiling ..	2/3	Per yard
Putty ..	Glazing ..	16/6	Per cwt.
R Rain water ..	Gutters, O.G. ..	2/2 2/8 3"	Per yard d/d
Ditto ..	Pipes, round ..	2/2 3/0	Per cwt.
Roofing, iron	Corrugated, galvd. ..	21/0	
S Sand ..	Ordinary ..	13/0	Per yard
Ditto ..	Washed ..	14/0	cube d/d
Sash ..	Lines, flax ..	3/8 4/6	Per knot
Ditto ..	Weights, iron ..	12/0	Per cwt.
Ditto ..	Ditto, lead ..	40/0	Ditto
Size ..	Best ..	5/6	Per fkn.
Slates ..	20" x 10", Welsh ..	430/0	Per 1,000
Ditto ..	14" x 9", ditto ..	187/0	Ditto
Soil pipes	L.C.C., iron, 4" ..	5/1	Per yard
Solder ..	Plumbers' ..	1/0	Per lb.
Steam ..	Tubes, Standard list ..	42½%	Delivered
Ditto ..	Fittings, ditto ..	42½%	Ditto
Ditto ..	Tubes, galvanised ..	25%	Ditto
Steel ..	Angles ..	14/6	Per cwt.
Ditto ..	Boils ..	36/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	Joist ..	13/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	Stanchions ..	17/6	Ditto
Stone ..	Bath ..	3/8	Per foot
Ditto ..	Portland ..	5/3	cube d/d
Ditto ..	York ..	6/0	
T Tar ..	Stockholm ..	1/0	Per gallon
Teak ..	Eng. ..	10/0	Per foot
Ditto ..	Moulmein ..	14/0	cube d/d
Terebine ..	..	10/0	Per gallon
Thimbles ..	Brass, Plumbers' ..	2/0 3/8	Each
Tiles ..	Plain, roofing ..	120/0	Per 1,000
Ditto ..	6" x 6", white glazed ..	12/6	Per yard
Timber ..	Deal, joinery ..	5/9	Per foot
Ditto ..	Ditto, Carpenters' ..	3/9	cube d/d
Ditto ..	Slating battens ..	2/6	Per 100 feet
Traps ..	Cast, lead, S. ..	1½" 2"	Each
Ditto ..	Ditto, P. ..	3/0 4/3	Ditto
Turpentine ..	..	2/4 3/5 5/6	Per gallon
U Unions ..	Plumbers' ..	1½" 1" 1" 2/3	Each
V Valves ..	Ball ..	1½" 1" 1"	Each
Varnish ..	Hard, oak ..	4/6 6/3 12/0	Per gallon
Ditto ..	Copal ..	15/0	Ditto
Ditto ..	Flat ..	17/0	Ditto
W Whiting ..	Gilders' ..	3/0	Per cwt.
Wire ..	Guards, galvd. ..	2" 2/6 4"	Per foot super.
Ditto ..	Balloon, ditto, ditto ..	5d. 6d.	Each
Ditto ..	Ditto, ditto, copper ..	1/0 1/4	Ditto
Z Zinc, V.M. ..	Sheeting ..	40/0	Per cwt.
Ditto ..	Ditto, perforated ..	4d.	Per foot super.

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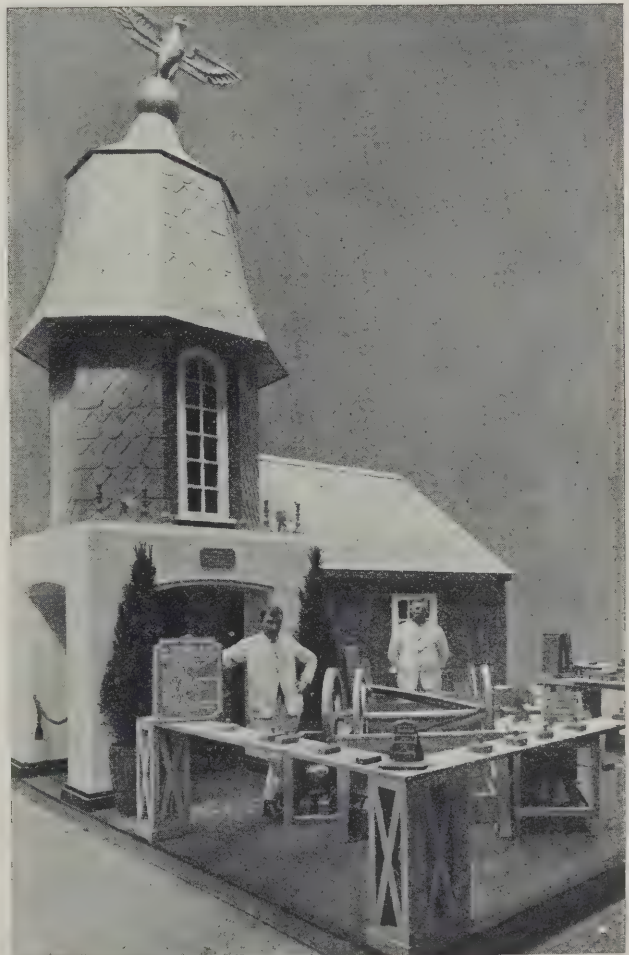
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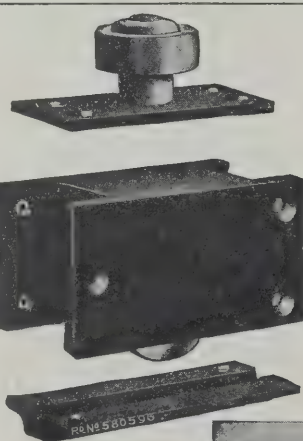
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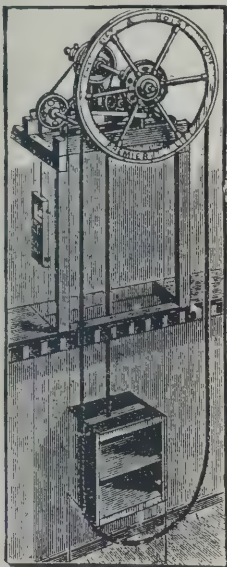
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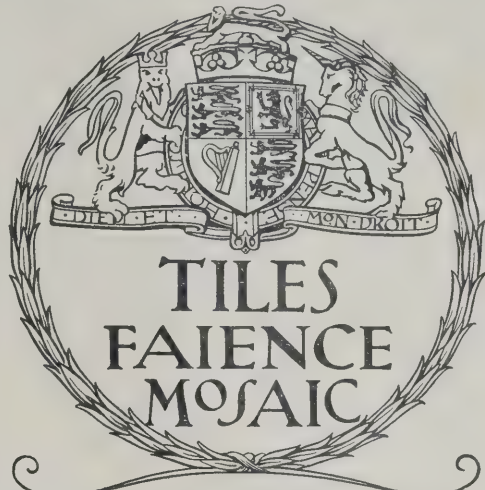
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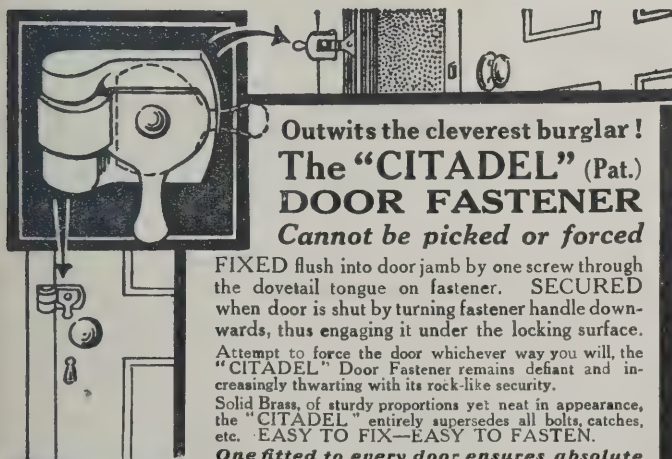
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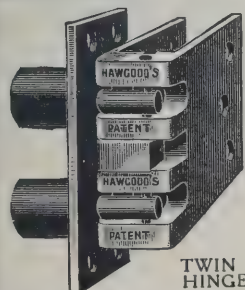


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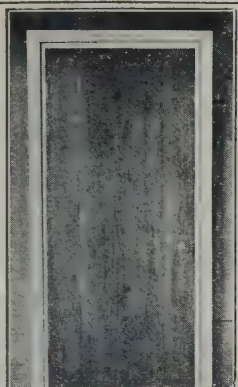
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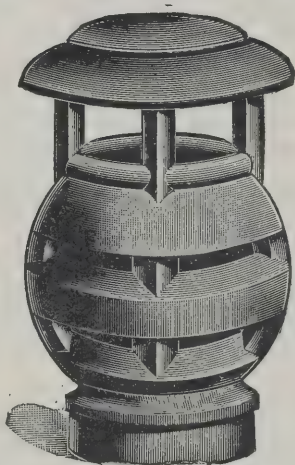
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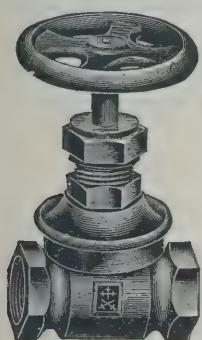
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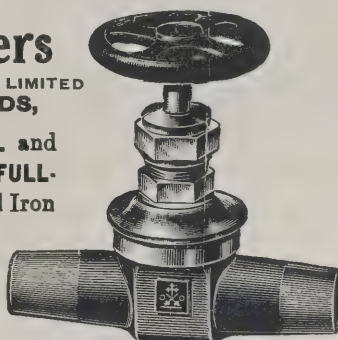
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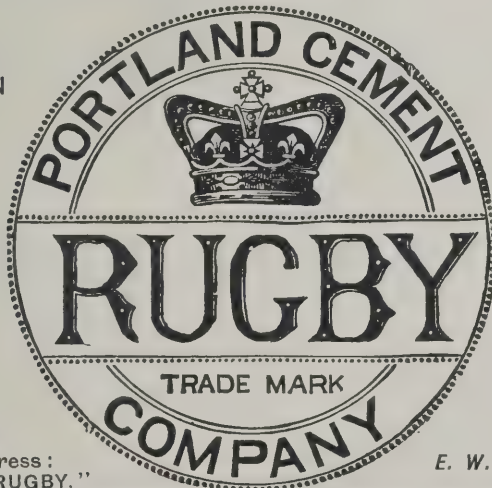
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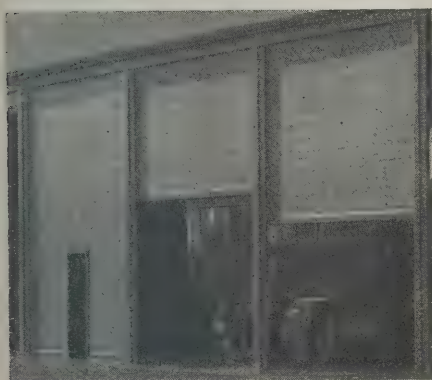
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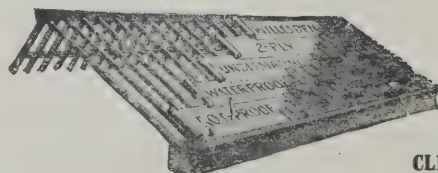
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In consequence of the necessity of closing pages for press on Wednesday, all fresh copy where proofs are required must reach this office by the Friday preceding publication, where no proof is required by Tuesday 5 o'clock.

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THE WALSALL AND WEST BROMWICH UNIONS JOINT COMMITTEE.

GREAT BARR PARK.

TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS.

THE COMMITTEE invite TENDERS for the ERECTION of CHILDREN'S HOME at Great Barr Park, in accordance with Specification and Plans prepared by Messrs. Pite, Son & Fairweather, Architects, 12 Carteret Street, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

Preference will be given to firms on the King's Roll. Specification, Plans and Conditions of Contract may be seen at the undermentioned address, and at 12 Carteret Street, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, London, S.W.1, from June 24. Bills of Quantities and Form of Tender will be supplied by me upon application being made, accompanied by a deposit of £5 5s. The amount so deposited will be returned by Committee's cheque upon receipt of a bona-fide Tender, sealed, and endorsed "Tender for Children's Home," and forwarded so as to reach me not later than first post on MONDAY, July 7, 1924.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order,
A. H. WARD, Clerk.

22, Lombard Street,
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June 16, 1924.

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Mr. James Tyler,
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(Sgd.) J. TYLER,
Assistant City Engineer.

Office of the High Commissioner for New Zealand,
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June 14th, 1924.

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Firms desiring to tender will be requested to deposit in my hands the sum of five guineas for copies of the Specification, conditions of contract, plans and drawings, of which four guineas will be returned on the return of the documents with a bona fide tender for the work.

The approximate cubic contents of the buildings to be heated are 600,000 cubic feet.

Permission to inspect the premises can be obtained on application to the Secretary of the College.

All applications with remittances must be in my hands by Monday morning, July 1st. The tenders must be sent in by Thursday, July 10th, and the work is to be completed by September 15th.

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Town Hall, Bournemouth,
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THE United Grand Lodge of England invite Architects to submit **DESIGNS for REBUILDING FREEMASONS' HALL** in Great Queen Street, Kingsway, London.

The Competition to be conducted in two stages. A First or Sketch Competition, and a second or Final Competition. Not fewer than six designs will be selected from those submitted in the First Competition, the authors of which will be invited to submit detailed plans in the Second of Final Competition. Each of the Architects submitting a design in the Final Competition will receive an honorarium of £500.

The Assessors are:—

Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A., F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Walter Cave, F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. A. Burnett Brown (Grand Superintendent of Works) F.S.Arc., F.S.I.

On receipt of One Guinea, which will be returned on receipt of a *bona fide* design, or if the Conditions are returned within four weeks of the date for submitting designs—competitors will receive conditions of the Competition, which have the approval of the R.I.B.A., together with block plan of site.

Applications must be received on or before Saturday, August 23, 1924, addressed to—

THE GRAND SECRETARY,
Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street,
London, W.C.2.

and should be marked "M.M.M. Competition."

CORPORATION OF GLASGOW.
PUBLIC HALL COMPETITION.

THE Corporation invite from **ARCHITECTS** Competitive **PLANS of a PUBLIC HALL** to be erected on a site near Bridgeton Cross.

The estimated cost of the buildings is £25,000. Premiums of £150, £100, £75 and £50 respectively will be awarded to the Offerers of the Designs adjudicated First, Second, Third and Fourth in order of merit.

A plan of the site along with a copy of the terms and conditions of the Competition may be obtained on application at the office of Public Works, City Chambers, 64, Cochrane Street. Sealed Designs, marked outside, "PUBLIC HALL COMPETITION," must be lodged with the subscriber on or before **FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1924.**

City Chambers,
Glasgow.
April 4, 1924.

NOTICES.

THE BANK OF LITHUANIA.
(LIETUVOS BANKAS.)

COMPETITION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDING.

In connection with the selection of plans for the new bank building in Kaunas (Kovno), Lithuania, the Board of the Bank of Lithuania begs to call the attention of architects participating in the competition to the fact that the announcement of the decision of the jury has been postponed till July 15 next.

BOARD OF THE BANK OF LITHUANIA.

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WANTED.—Particulars with lowest price of plot of **FREEHOLD BUILDING LAND** for Bungalow in best part of Coulsdon, Caterham (not in Valley), Upper Woldingham or district. Give full particulars as to drainage, electric light, gas, water, &c., and whether roads taken over, to Box 100, Office of "The Architect."

ADVERTISER wants delivery of good sound **BUILDING BRICKS** in Surrey, within 14 miles of London; could take regular supply. State price and quantity offered to Box 299, Office of this Journal.

PAINTING and Distemping Wanted. Piece work, with plant. Town or country. Good references. **WRIGHT**, 163 Upper Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, S.E.11.

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64 ROYSTON AVENUE, S. CHINGFORD, E.4.
Silver Medallist, Practical Brickwork, City and Guilds, London, 1911.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WANTED. ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN, Catholic, 20-25, as assistant to ecclesiastical artist.—Write Box C108, c/o 19-21 Corporation Street, Birmingham.

BUILDING DRAUGHTSMAN required. Must have knowledge of surveying and levelling and be capable of doing drawings for Factory Extension, including calculations. Apply in writing giving full particulars of age, education, training, experience and salary required to: **F. O. CADBURY BROS., LTD.**, Bournville.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

FORTHCOMING EXAMINATION: **MALE CARTOGRAPHER** in the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty, (19-25, with extension in certain cases), July 10. The date specified is the latest on which applications can be received. They must be made on forms to be obtained, with particulars, from The Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, London, W.1.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

TO ARCHITECTS.—Young man (25) seeks opening. Draughtsman, and good b.c. knowledge; clerical experience. Low salary to start.—**F. S.**, 4 Clyde Road, Redland, Bristol.

ARCHITECT wishes for position as assistant, many years first class experience. Good references.—Box 212, Office of "The Architect."

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DRAUGHTSMAN'S IMPROVER requires situation, Town or Country. Also knowledge of Shorthand and typewriting. Box 42, Office of "The Architect."

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ARCHITECT desires position as **ASSISTANT**, many years' experience. South-west or south preferred. Box 147, Office of "The Architect."

DRAUGHTSMAN, age 25, seeks situation, eight years' experience Building Contractor's office, surveys, etc. Box 75, Office of "The Architect."

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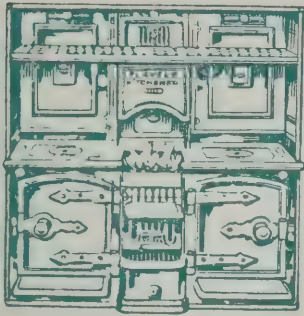
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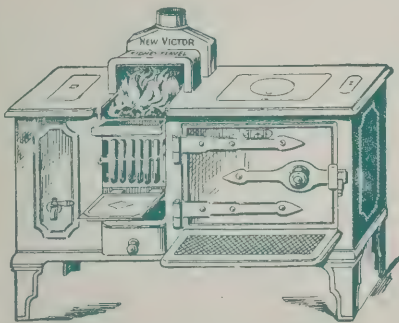
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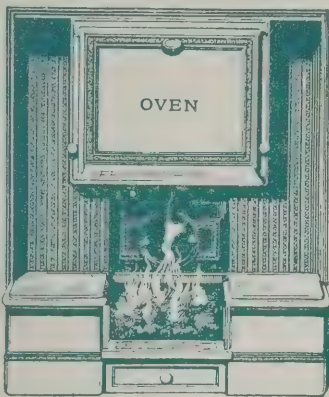
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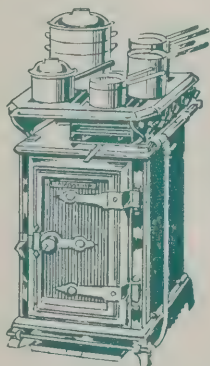
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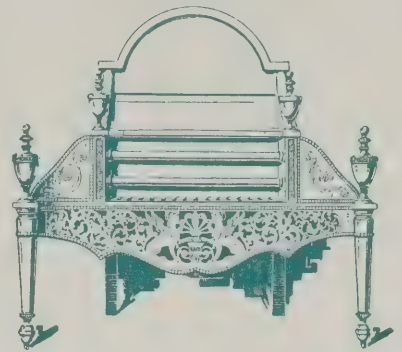
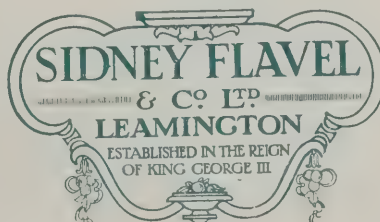


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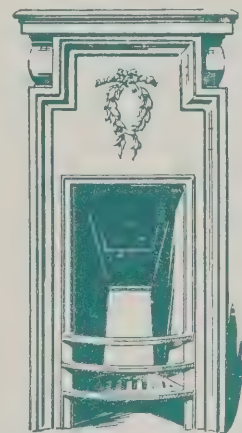
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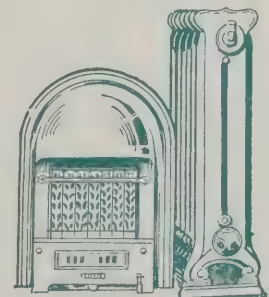
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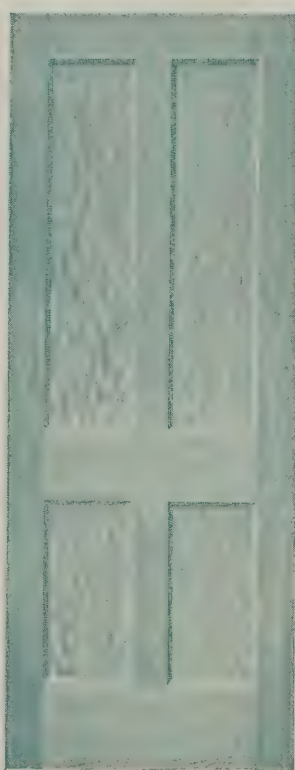


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